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'ARAFAT MEETS WITH PLO SECURITY DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS

JN081600Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1500 GMT 8 Feb 78 JN

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar met last night with the brother officials in the revolution's Security Department. The meeting discussed the means necessary to insure the security of the Lebanese and Palestinian citizens in the face of the suspicious attempts to explode the situation in the Lebanese arena.

ARAB PEOPLE'S CONGRESS TO DISCUSS AS-SADAT TRIAL

LD071604Y Tripoli JANA in English 1530 GMT 7 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, February 7, JANA--The third meeting of the permanent secretariat of the Arab people's congress will be held in Damascus from 11th to 13th of February. A number of important issues will be discussed including necessary arrangements for the trial of As-Sadat. A special committee comprising legislators and politicians has already been set up by the permanent secretariat to fix the criminal and political charges against As-Sadat.

This decision will be put forward to the secretariat for endorsement as well as the procedures for forming a tribunal of important figures in the political and legislative world to conduct this historical case, which will deal with As-Sadat's capitulation course and his betrayal of the Arab nation and the Palestinian cause.

The secretariat will also discuss other subjects including the draft charter for the progressive national front which has been drawn up by the Jamahiriyah. The Arab people's congress, held in Tripoli from 5 to 8 December, designated the Jamahiriyah as headquarters of the secretariat and assigned popular delegations to visit most of world countries to explain the resolutions passed at the conference, these delegations have received a favourable response from the progressive and popular organisations in several countries.

ARAB EXPERTS ISSUE RECOMMENDATIONS ON LAW OF SEA

JN071902Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1750 GMT 7 Feb 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 7 February--Arab experts on the law of the sea have decided to form a subcommittee to study the traffic system in navigable straits and the guarantees which should be given the coastal states regarding the passage of nuclear submarines and ships in these straits. The subcommittee is made up of six states: Iraq, the YAR, the PDRY, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Oman. The subcommittee will undertake the study of this question. The Arab experts asserted that it is significant to approve a recommendation banning warships and submarines from passage through straits and along coasts in the region except when private agreements have been reached with the coastal states.

This is contained in resolutions adopted by the committee of Arab experts on the law of the sea at the conclusion of their 6-day meeting here today. [words indistinct] the questions related to the regional waters, [words indistinct] the law on the pollution of the sea and the exploitation of seabeds under the high seas are the questions which will be discussed at the law of the sea conference scheduled to be held in Geneva next March.

The committee recommended the adoption of special provisions regarding the liberation movements so that they will be entitled to observer status in all the organs established by a law of the sea agreement.

The committee also recommended that the Arab delegations support the Maltese Government in an attempt to make Malta the headquarters of an international authority which will be established to discover and exploit the ocean and seabeds as well as to continue cooperation with the Afro-Asian group in the law of the sea conference to be held in Geneva next March. The Arab delegations should promote the use of the Arabic language in all conference discussions on the proposals submitted by delegations.

AS-SA'IQAH OPERATIONS IN, NEAR JERUSALEM REPORTED

JN051359Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1309 GMT 5 Feb 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 5 February--A military spokesman of the general command of the As-Sa'iqah forces has stated the following: In reply to As-Sadat's defeatist and capitulatory policy and confirming our people's rejection of the imperialist-Zionist-As-Sadat conspiracy aimed at liquidating the cause of our Palestinian Arab people and convinced that the continuation and escalation of armed struggle is the only means to retrieve our national and legitimate rights, our strugglers in the occupied territories have carried out the following operations:

The Al-Akhbar al-'Arabi martyr group placed a timed explosive charge in a bus at a private car parking lot in the Jewish quarter in old Jerusalem. The explosive charge went off on schedule on 27 January 1977, destroying the bus.

The Mustapha Hafiz martyr group, belonging to the As-Sa'iqah forces, placed timed explosive charges at (Manco) Street in occupied Jerusalem near the old mill. The explosive charges went off on schedule on 2 February 1978. The Muhyi ad-Din Muhammad Martyr group placed timed explosive charges in a building occupied by elements of the Zionist intelligence service opposite the police post at the Neve Ya'cov quarter north of occupied Jerusalem. The explosive charges went off on schedule during the after of 10 January 1978.

The Sa'id Muhad martyr group placed a timed explosive charge in the office of the Zionist guard near the old pond [words indistinct] in Jaffa. The explosive charge went off during the evening of 13 January 1978, killing two Zionists. The Muwafaq Hashim al-Madi martyr group placed a timed explosive charge in Building No 14 opposite the Shaykh Jarrah playground at Ramat Eskhol in occupied Jerusalem. The explosive charge went off on schedule on 26 January 1978, injuring a number of the enemy.

The spokesman stated that the enemy has admitted all these operations.

PALESTINIAN OFFICIALS INTERVIEWED ON LEBANON

LD061648Y Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 2 Feb 78 p 9 LD

[Excerpts] Damascus--by Najib Salih--It now appears that the Palestinians in Lebanon have lost everything. When a gambler stakes everything he owns, he usually keeps for himself the cost of the ticket to return home so that he can start afresh. But it is clear that the Palestinian command has also lost the cost of the return ticket, probably because of overconfidence in some of the Arab leaders or confidence in the Israeli rulers themselves on the grounds that the logical minimum will inevitably be realized and that they are found to obtain a Palestinian state, even if much less than the original Palestinian state. But even this simple dream has vanished and seems to be just an illusion.

This was what a leading member of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] told AS-SIYASAH. The member added: Could the Palestinians have had a more bitter experience than their experience in Jordan in 1970 and 1971 to insure that they--that is, the leadership--would not make the same mistakes in Lebanon? But what happened was that the leadership moved to Lebanon only to make the same mistakes and to get in the situation in which they are in now.

At the "summit rejection front" recently held in Tripoli a typical example of such behavior occurred at the final meeting of the conference. When the document of "Palestinian unity," which was signed by all the Palestinian factions, was read, Abu 'Ammar said: "This is the unified Palestinian stand." Bassam Abu Sharif, a PFLP leader, replied: We all are now a Palestinian rejection force. Interrupting, Khalid al-Fahum, chairman of the Palestine National Council, said: No, we are Palestinians in one single front. But Abu Sharif reiterated his phrase, and it was feared that a heated debate would ensue. But Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi intervened with a long speech.

A Palestinian source close to 'Arafat said: "Previously they said the Palestinian can lose nothing. If anything, he will lose his shackle and his tent. But, in fact, geographically we have lost Jordan and now we are on our way to bankruptcy in Lebanon. We did not lose a shackle or a tent but rather a foothold. The Lebanese front is now involving us in side battles with the Moslems in Sidon, Tyre and Beirut and the Shi'ite Moslems in the south simply to impress upon world opinion that we are a 'bloody faction' that fought the Jews in Palestine, the Christians in Lebanon and is now fighting both the rightist and leftist Moslems."

I will tell you, the Palestinian official added, provided that you do not disclose my name or my position, that we have withdrawn from Sidon city (Islamic) to inside the camps, and shortly we will withdraw from Ad-Damur (Christian) simply in order to pull the rug from under the feet of those who are trying to involve us in a battle. But this does not mean that our battle in Lebanon is over. On the contrary, it has begun but in a different manner, the reason being that the resistance and the refugees no longer have a geographical location except Lebanon.

Hani al-Hassan, Yasir 'Arafat's personal representative, told AS-SIYASAH: We are now following a new policy, a policy of going back to the gun and not getting involved in the dialog over a political settlement or a Palestinian state. We have shut the old door and we are at ease. The decisions that have been taken by the Fatah organization are essentially aimed at restoring Arab solidarity after it had been weakened by the recent developments, leaving the vicious circle of talk about a peaceful settlement and maintaining silence. There will be no daily talk about peace and settlement and the Palestinian state, the reason being simply that if President as-Sadat is offered anything, it will be offered to all the Arabs, including ourselves. But if As-Sadat obtains nothing, that will be the end of the world.

AS-SIAYSAH asked Hani al-Hassan about the Cairo and Shtawrah agreements over the Palestinian presence in the south. He said: There are two interpretations for the two agreements. One is Arab and Palestinian and the other is American.

The American interpretation is somewhat similar to the controversy over the well-known Resolution 242. The American interpretation is that the Palestinians should remain at a distance of 10 km from Lebanon's southern borders with Israel, while in fact the Shtawrah agreement is the correct interpretation of the Cairo Agreement, namely, that the resistance should remain in its positions, particularly in Al-'Urqub, near the Lebanese-Israeli borders.

NEW PLO REPRESENTATIVE IN LONDON INTERVIEWED

LD061942Y Beirut EVENTS in English 10 Feb 78 p 11 LD

[Interview with Nabil Ramlawi, the new PLO representative in London, following the assassination of Sa'id Hamami--date unspecified]

[Text] [Question] Where does the PLO go from here, considering that it seems to be under pressure from many sides?

[Answer] First, I can say that As-Sadat and Carter know full well that it is not possible to reach a solution to the Middle East crisis unless there is a just settlement to the Palestinian problem, the core and essence of the Middle East crisis. The PLO represents the Palestinian people and has the right to speak in their name and to express their opinions in any attempt at settlement. But there are attempts by As-Sadat and Carter to remove the PLO from the arena. In my view, they are making the problem even more complex. The attempts to remove the PLO confirm with the futile efforts of the Israelis to find a substitute for the PLO from among their own agents. These agents in the occupied territories are being removed by the bullets of the Palestinian revolution.

[Question] What sort of settlement would the PLO find acceptable?

[Answer] We look at every attempt at a settlement, or rather we judge it by how far it includes our national rights in Palestine. When I say national rights, I mean the rights for which the Palestinian people are struggling and which are recognized by the international community and more than one UN resolution, that is, the right of the Palestinian people in Palestine, the right of those outside to return to their homeland, the right to exercise sovereignty in an independent state. Without these inalienable rights there can be no peace in the Middle East.

[Question] Early last year it appeared that the PLO might be willing to agree to a "disguised" PLO presence at Geneva. Are such "compromises in method" still acceptable?

[Answer] The PLO never mentioned any names of people to represent it at the Geneva conference. This was speculation in the press. In fact, at the time, the conference was not ready to be convened and no invitation was extended to the PLO. The PLO has the right to decide who shall represent it in any international conference, should the PLO decide to attend.

[Question] President as-Sadat seems to have run up against an Israeli brick wall in negotiations. What does the PLO want As-Sadat to do?

[Answer] Our position on As-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem was one of clear rejection, for reasons stated by the Executive Committee of the PLO at the time. Our position has not changed. What As-Sadat does, after his announcement that there is no hope in the current settlement, is his problem.

[Question] Can an independent revolutionary movement such as the PLO survive in the current situation, or will the PLO gradually be absorbed by the various Arab states who will call the tune in the struggle for a Palestine state?

[Answer] I want to point out that the bitter struggle waged by the Palestinian resistance in the last few years has been a defence of an independent Palestinian outlook. It remains capable of defending its independence with all its forces, forces which arise from an independent revolution with clearly defined aims and which have the support of the Palestinian people as a whole.

WORLD YOUTH SEMINAR ON PALESTINE BEGINS IN LIBYA

JN051128Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1015 GMT 5 Feb 78 JN

[Text] Tripoli, 5 February--The world youth seminar began its meetings here today under the slogan "no peace, no negotiation and no recognition." Several Arab and foreign students leagues are taking part in this seminar, which will last 5 days.

The seminar will discuss the latest developments of the situation in the Arab region and the repercussions of As-Sadat's visit to occupied Palestine and his negotiations with the Zionist enemy as well as the role of the Arab students in this phrase.

An Iraqi delegation consisting of Hashim Muhammad and Qasim Hattab, members of the Executive Bureau of the National Students Federation, is participating in the seminar. The Iraqi delegation will present a study on the Palestinian question and the role of Arab youth and students in backing this question.

ARAB GULF INFORMATION MINISTERS ISSUE RESOLUTIONS

JN0816447 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1345 GMT 8 Feb 78 JN

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 8 February--The meetings of the third conference of information ministers of the Arab Gulf states ended here today. The conference lasted 2 days. At the conclusion of its meetings in which delegations from seven Arab Gulf states participated, the conference issued 14 resolutions to bolster information integration among the Arab Gulf countries and establish several specialized information institutions.

The conferees decided that the information ministries in the gulf states should conduct a general survey of the requisites of radio and television training in the area and that the results of this survey will act as a basis for defining the size and cost of establishing a regional radio and television training center in Qatar.

The conferees approved sending a memo to the OAPEC General Secretariat regarding coordination with this organization in the area of oil information during the stages preceding the establishment of an oil information center. An urgent meeting will be held on the level of experts, with the participation of representatives from the oil and foreign ministries, to formulate a plan for an information campaign. The director of the OAPEC Administrative Department will also be invited to the meeting.

The conferees decided that the GULF NEWS AGENCY will begin official transmissions at the beginning of April. Bahraini Information Minister Tariq al-Mu'ayyid was reelected chairman of the Board of Directors of the agency.

It was also decided that Kuwait and Qatar will operate a direct line between the GULF NEWS AGENCY and the agencies in the two countries. Iraq will transmit the GULF NEWS AGENCY English bulletin within the English transmission of the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY.

Iraqi Minister's Press Conference

JN0818597 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1535 GMT 8 Feb 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 8 February--Sa'd Qasim Hammudi, Iraqi information minister and chairman of the third conference of the information ministers of the Arab Gulf states, has declared that the conference's meetings confirmed the common desire to develop information cooperation among the Arab Gulf states in a spirit of realism.

At a press conference held at As-Salam Palace this evening at the end of the conference, Hammudi said: The discussions at the conference concentrated on strengthening information projects, free from formalities, as well as on providing the requirements for the total success of these projects. Hammudi affirmed that, proceeding from this principle, a critical and scientific review was made at the conference with the aim of implementing the projects approved by the first and second conferences of the information ministers of the Arab Gulf states.

Hammudi added: There was no objection to the principle of adopting these resolutions. However, stress was placed on giving these projects a scientific form so as to provide the technical expertise and manpower necessary to make these projects succeed. Hammudi continued: The conferees were also anxious to have a realistic atmosphere prevail in fixing the amounts needed to establish the information projects and in guiding their budget properly so as to contribute to the development of these projects. Hammudi said that the GULF NEWS AGENCY will begin its official transmissions as of 1 April 1978 to cover developments in the area.

Hammudi expressed Iraq's preparedness to support the new agency with technical expertise and manpower in a manner that will contribute to its functioning while benefiting from the technical and manpower experience of INA and the network of its correspondents and offices in Arab and foreign capitals. The cooperation agreements concluded between INA and foreign news agencies will also be beneficial to disseminating the news of the GULF NEWS AGENCY and making its news reach a large audience.

Hammudi said agreement was reached among the Arab Gulf information ministers to give press scoops to the GULF NEWS AGENCY continually, to highlight its news and to refer to it as a source by the Arab information media using its news. Hammudi affirmed the significance of the corporation for the joint program production among the Arab Gulf states. He called on the Arab states to use the corporation's programs instead of foreign programs, which are harmful to Arab youth, so as to make Arab young people aware of their ethos and pan-Arab heritage.

Hammudi said that during the conference agreement was reached to place controls on all commercial corporations producing television films and dealing with television stations of the Arab Gulf states in preparing their programs.

The press conference was attended by correspondents from Arab Gulf and local newspapers, magazines and the information media.

Fourth Conference in Bahrain

JN081648Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1420 GMT 8 Feb 78 JN

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 8 February--It has been decided to convene the fourth conference of the Arab Gulf information ministers in Manama at the beginning of 1979. This was stated to INA by Tariq 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Mu'ayyid, Bahraini information minister and head of the Bahraini delegation to the meetings of the third information ministers conference.

Al-Mu'ayyid said that the fourth conference will follow up on several topics which the third conference decided to study during the period preceding the convocation of the fourth conference.

KUWAIT

SPOKESMAN ON RESPONSIBILITY FOR SOMALIA'S DEFENSE

LD081730Y Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 8 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Answering a question by a reporter on the events now taking place in the Horn of Africa and news reports about an Ethiopian attack against Somalia, a responsible source said that what interests Kuwait is a stable peace in this vital area of the world and the finding of solutions to the problems of the area in the framework of the OAU and UN principles.

The spokesman added that the responsibility of defending the Somali territories is a collective Arab one, as Somalia is a member of the Arab League, included in the common Arab defense pact.

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM BLAMES SOVIET INFLUENCE ON U.S. POLICY

LD071450Y Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 4 Feb 78 p 1 LD

[Editorial]

[Excerpts] The United States is now playing the umpire while in fact it is definitely an adversary; yet further evidence of this fact is now seen in its attitude toward the Horn of Africa. There is currently a major and clear conflict which can be described as follows:

The Soviet Union is sponsoring and backing Mengistu's regime in Addis Ababa while the Arabs from Somalia to Cairo are loudly protesting against such support. Nevertheless, the Americans--despite their evident interest in and care for the Horn of Africa--refrain from supporting Eritrea or Somalia in the war against Ethiopia. Why do the Americans withhold even moral support from those fighting against the pro-Moscow Ethiopian regime? Is this not an important and major question? The immediate situation in the Horn of Africa makes it incumbent upon the United States to stand on the side of those who are fighting against the Marxist regime. Moreover, the Americans have interest in the important Horn of Africa, which is extremely vital for the naval routes along the Red Sea, the Arab Gulf, Bab el Mandeb and the Suez Canal, through which the Middle East oil is shipped to the West.

What, then, is the real story?

Briefly, the story is that the Americans would not support the Arabs in any geographical area or place. And since Eritrea and Somalia are both Arab and hold these strategic keys in their hands, Washington prefers a thousand times for these keys to be in the hands of the Devil rather than be in the hands of the Arabs. Otherwise, since when have the Americans had such a high morality that they do not intervene against Soviet influence spreading in one of the most important and vital areas? But in fact the Americans consider the Soviet danger as something transient; to them the greatest danger and the major obstacle lies in the Arabs taking control of their territories and obtaining their rights. Nevertheless, the Egyptian ruler has gone to the Americans to ask for help and fairness. But how and under what logic does he do so while the Americans adopt policies that aim at curbing their advance and disrupting them?

Cairo is extremely naive if it expects the Americans to show a minimum of fairness as an umpire between us and the Israelis and, indeed, between us and any enemy. In fact, Cairo is extremely naive if it thinks that the Americans are disturbed or concerned over the Marxist regime in Ethiopia. The simple fact that we should have learned here and throughout the world is that the Americans are behind every "Soviet advance" in the Middle East, in Asia and Africa and even in the Mediterranean, beginning with the island of Cyprus and ending with the emergence of communism in Italy, France and Spain. This is because the Americans know well that surrounding the Arab world with communist regimes or Marxist centers would force the Arabs to make further concessions to Israel, be it with regard to the Palestinian problem or--as we have seen recently--to freezing the oil prices and accepting the drop in the dollar value out of their fear of the "Soviet bete noire," which in the first place was introduced by the Americans themselves.

In any case, the biggest enemy of the Arabs is the Arabs themselves, because they have not learned the lesson of the "game of nations" being played by the major ones, be they Americans or Soviets.

SOURCES DENY OIL PRICES INDIRECTLY REDUCED

NC0909322Y Doha QNA in Arabic 0751 GMT 9 Feb 78 NC

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 9 February--Oil sources here have denied reports indicating that Kuwait has indirectly reduced its oil prices by extending the payment period from 60 to 80 days. The sources affirmed that the reports are absolutely not true.

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM VIEWS OUTCOME OF CAMP DAVID TALKS

LD0822302Y Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 7 Feb 78 pp 1, 19 LD

[Editorial: "In the Shadows of Camp David"]

[Excerpts] The new thing on the Camp David front, according to the joint statement issued on the talks of Presidents as-Sadat and Carter, is the decision to order Atherton to move to the area to try to inject the Egyptian initiative with anything that would revive it. This is an attempt at saving face by hinting that the Egyptian wager on Washington is still valid.

Most probably--apart from the fact that the Egyptian-Israeli talks might be resumed shortly--the important point on which the Camp David talks focused was the deteriorating situation in Africa. Perhaps the talk about giving U.S. weapons to Egypt is designed to heat up the "Egyptian-Libyan front" on the one hand and to back up the large-scale Egyptian move toward the Horn of Africa on the other. Perhaps the Egyptian president's reference, while on his way to Washington, to the messages he received from Chad (which is adjacent to Libya) and from the Somali president, reveals the nature of such concern.

According to U.S. estimates, the heating up of the Libyan-Egyptian front in the coming stage would prevent Libya from throwing all its weight behind the front of steadfastness and from devoting itself to strengthening the Syrian-Palestinian front. This means that--in addition to the current Algerian-Moroccan conflict that is likely to grow worse, the Syrian-Iraqi rift and the complex Lebanese situation--the intended onslaught primarily aims at disrupting the Arab front of steadfastness by involving each of its parties in a problem that has been prepared for it with the aim of negating its national role.

Obviously the Camp David talks have been held in an atmosphere of privacy so as to keep all these ideas in doubt and so that none of them will be assumed as a certainty or even a possibility. The leaders at Camp David must have reached the conclusion that the present stage "calls for marking time and halting the momentum" until the vast U.S. machine will move to start fires in the positions of the steadfastness front.

In the estimate of the Americans, Cairo is already in the trap and therefore it is told--as a means of tempting it--that all it has to do is to wait to see the results of U.S. efforts throughout the Arab arena.

Cairo, which has become involved, finds itself in a blind alley: it can neither advance toward the Israelis more than it already has done, nor can it retreat so as not to have it said that it has conceded to the "uncivilized Arabs."

Consequently, the joint statement dealt vaguely with essential points and referred to them only in passing. The Americans have been eager to underline this point since Cairo withdrew its delegation from the Jerusalem talks, just as they have been eager to emphasize that the United States is an Israeli Arena shared by no one else.

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM ON OUTCOME OF REJECTIONIST CONFERENCE

LD092240Y Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 7 Feb 78 pp 1, 19 LD

[Text] Algiers--By Faruq 'Abd al-Karim: Algerian officials have expressed great satisfaction with the outcome of the second summit conference of steadfastness and confrontation. Sources of the conference said that the leaders have agreed to turn Syria into an armed garrison that could face Israel alone and to consider the Soviet Union as the strategic and natural ally of the forces of rejection and confrontation.

The sources also said that Chairman Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has been convinced of and has adopted the Syrian viewpoint. They said that in the first 2 days of the conference the Libyan stand was similar to the Iraqi stand, but on the last day of the conference Al-Qadhdhafi criticized the Iraqi attitude and considered its absence from the conference of steadfastness as indirect support for President as-Sadat's policies. However, at the insistence of the Algerian president, Al-Qadhdhafi agreed to give Iraq a "last chance" before deciding on a stand toward it.

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM has also learned that among the secret resolutions adopted by the conference is a decision to hold the third summit conference on Baghdad in the event that Iraq agrees to join the front, or in Damascus in case a final attempt fails. It was also decided to hold a conference of the front's information ministers in Damascus in March.

The sources said that after the Tripoli summit the Soviet Union promised the back Syria militarily and to meet its defense demands. Syrian sources said that this promise is actually being fulfilled.

OMAN

YAR'S MINISTER AL-ASNAJ LEAVES MUSCAT FOR HOME

NC091333Y Doha QNA in Arabic 1313 GMT 9 Feb 78 NC

[Text] Muscat, 9 February--YAR Foreign Minister 'Abdallah al-Asnaj left Muscat for home this afternoon after a brief visit of a few hours to the Sultanate of Oman. During the visit Al-Asnaj held talks with Omani Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Yusuf al-'Alawi which dealt with the strengthening of relations and means to develop them. They also reviewed a number of questions of mutual interest.

SAUDI ARABIA

SOURCE DENIES DISPATCH OF FORCES TO SOMALIA

NC082252Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 2210 GMT 8 Feb 78 NC

[Text] Riyadh, 8 February--An official source at the Foreign Ministry tonight denied reports that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has contributed to the dispatch of soldiers to Somalia to help the Somali Army. The source made a statement in which he described these reports as false, untrue and completely baseless.

The following is the text of the statement:

Quoting a so-called Ethiopian spokesman, REUTER carried dispatches from Rome saying that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has sent soldiers to Somalia to help the Somali Army. A responsible official source has stated that these reports are false, untrue, and unfactual and completely baseless.

The source added: The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which is aware of the aims of the dissemination of these fabricated reports, also knows that world public opinion is too well aware of the facts to be misled or deceived, thus preventing those who mislead and deceive from achieving their objective of covering up the blatant foreign interference in the domestic affairs of states in the area.

'UKAZ SEES MIDEAST, AFRICAN CONFLICT AS LINKED

LD071452Y Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 5 Feb 78 p 1 LD

[Editorial]

[Text] The U.S. attitude toward peace in the Middle East is contradictory. While President Carter declared that no new war will be allowed to break out in the Middle East, we find that the Pentagon, although not directly involved in the Ethiopian-Somali conflict in the Horn of Africa, is supporting the Israeli role and the role of other countries in creating an Ethiopian supremacy over Somalia. It is as though the United States is bargaining with Zionism over reducing the size of its presence in the Middle East in return for giving it a new presence in the Horn of Africa against the Arabs. This is because an Ethiopian supremacy over Somalia would mean a new Arab concern with a new confrontation, especially since Somalia is an Arab League member state, and therefore any threat to its territorial sovereignty would be a direct threat to the whole Arab homeland.

The U.S. role in the conflict in the Horn of Africa cannot be looked upon separately from the Middle East conflict. This role reflects an international agreement on maintaining a peace balance between the Eastern bloc and the Western bloc on the basis that the strategic Horn of Africa will be subjected to communist control in return for subjecting the Middle East to Western influence. This bartering of influence is in itself evidence of the importance of mutual strategy.

Consequently, the apparent conflict in the outward attitude of the United States is in fact a balanced and coordinated international action based on a general concept of the international problems on which Moscow and Washington see eye to eye.

As long as the international scheme is to impose a balanced mutual presence of the two pillars of world peace, then the Middle East is bound to witness a large-scale movement to isolate the leftwing in it since the Soviet Union will abandon giving support to those who shift too far from its policy. This reality would be a new definition of the concept of arranging influences in the Middle East and the Horn of Africa.

YEMEN--PDRY

HASANI RECEIVES GDR, VIETNAMESE AMBASSADORS

LD081900Y Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 8 Feb 78 LD/EA

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad Hasani, member of the Politburo and chairman of the Council of Ministers, this morning received Comrade Gunther Sharfenberg, the GDR ambassador in Aden, who delivered to him a letter from Comrade Willi Stoph, member of the SED Politburo and chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers. The brother premier and the ambassador discussed relations between the two countries and issues affecting the followup of the implementation of bilateral economic and technical matters.

The brother premier expressed to the comrade ambassador his deep satisfaction with the positive results deriving from his talks and meetings with Comrade Erich Honecker, first secretary of the SED Central Committee, and Comrade Willi Stoph and the other comrade German leaders during his official visit to the GDR.

Later brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad received the comrade ambassador of Socialist Vietnam in Aden, who during the meeting delivered a message from Comrade Pham Van Dong, member of the Politburo of the Vietnam Communist Party and chairman of the Council of Ministers of Socialist Vietnam, inviting the brother premier to make an official visit to Socialist Vietnam. The brother premier accepted the invitation with gratitude, saying he would make the visit at a date to be fixed later.

The brother premier then heard from the ambassador a detailed report on latest developments in Indochina and the existing disputes between Socialist Vietnam and Cambodia. During the meeting the brother premier expressed the PDRY's desire to see the current dispute between Vietnam and Cambodia solved by peaceful means in the spirit of fraternity and the common struggle linking the Vietnamese and Cambodian peoples. The brother premier expressed approval to the Vietnamese Government's 5 February statement on solving the dispute with Cambodia.

FURTHER EGYPTIAN REPORTAGE ON AS-SADAT U.S. VISIT

8 Feb Activities

NC0819102 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1840 GMT 8 Feb 78 NC

[Text] Washington, 8 February--President Anwar as-Sadat today received at Blair House former U.S. Vice President Nelson Rockefeller. Mrs Jihan as-Sadat at the same time met with Mrs Nelson Rockefeller, who accompanied her husband.

Afterward President as-Sadat met with representatives of the American Federation of Labor, which is headed by George Meany. Meany, who is sick in Florida, sent the director of financial affairs, Ernest Lee, to head the labor delegation at its meeting with President as-Sadat.

President as-Sadat later attended a working luncheon with U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance at the State Department. Mrs Vance hosted a luncheon in honor of Mrs Jihan as-Sadat.

President as-Sadat will hold a final round of discussions with President Carter at the White House before he ends his 6-day visit to Washington. The White House is expected to issue a statement this afternoon on President as-Sadat's visit.

Luncheon With Vance

NC0821262 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2057 GMT 8 Feb 78 NC

[Text] Washington, 8 February--President Anwar as-Sadat made a statement after the working luncheon he attended today with U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance at the State Department. The text of the statement follows:

I have indeed enjoyed my meetings with President Carter and Mr Vance at the White House. As I told Mr Vance during the luncheon just now I came disheartened and discouraged but I am returning more determined to continue the efforts to reach our goal, especially when the United States exercises its role not merely as an observer or go-between. Its role after this visit is one of complete partnership.

Cyrus Vance made a statement after the luncheon in which he welcomed President as-Sadat's visit to the United States. He described the visit as very useful in light of the series of discussions which have taken place. Vance said that President as-Sadat will meet once more with President Carter this evening before he returns to his country. In conclusion, Vance again thanked President as-Sadat for the visit and the very useful discussions which took place.

President as-Sadat arrived at the State Department at 1845 Cairo time this evening. He was welcomed near the main entrance of the building by Cyrus Vance, Assistant Secretary of State Alfred Atherton and senior officials of the department. Members of the Egyptian delegation accompanied President as-Sadat on this visit. They are People's Assembly Speaker Engineer Sayyid Mar'i, Chief of the President's Office Hasan Kamil, Foreign Minister Ibrahim Kamil, Egyptian Ambassador to the United States Dr Ashraf Ghurbal, and Ambassador Ahmad Mahir.

Meeting With Carter

NC0820362 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2038 GMT 8 Feb 78 NC

[Text] Washington, 8 February--President Anwar as-Sadat arrived at the White House at 2205 Cairo time this evening to meet with U.S. President Jimmy Carter.

President as-Sadat and his wife were welcomed near the steps of the main entrance to the White House by U.S. President Carter and his wife. Presidents as-Sadat and Carter met for 20 minutes at the White House. The two presidents then went to the White House garden, where President Carter read a statement to the reporters.

President Carter reviewed his discussions with President as-Sadat which sought a permanent and just solution in the Middle East. He stressed the U.S. desire to continue the efforts to attain this goal.

President as-Sadat then answered with a similar statement on his discussions with President Carter, Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and other American officials. He emphasized his determination to continue the efforts to establ h peace in the Middle East and welcomed the U.S. role in this regard.

After these two statements, President Carter and his wife saw the distinguished Arab guest and his wife to the door of the car which took them to Blair House, where President as-Sadat will spend some time before leaving Washington for London at the end of his 6-day official visit to the United States.

As-Sadat Statement

NC082222Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2150 GMT 8 Feb 78 NC

[Statement by Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat following his final discussions with U.S. President Carter at the White House on 8 February--recorded; in English with superimposed Arabic translation]

[Text] My dear friends President Carter, Mrs Carter: We have spent a very delightful weekend at Camp David--President and Mrs Carter, my wife and I. Frankly I must tell you that I was delighted when I received an invitation from President Carter to visit him here at such a decisive moment as the present. I came disheartened and discouraged and feeling disappointed. We held lengthy discussions at Camp David and then we completed the discussions here in Washington with Secretary of State Vance. I must tell you before my departure that I will return today to my country with much more perserverence to achieve peace through the efforts which we--the United States and Egypt--have exerted together since November 1973. We will realize all our aims to achieve permanent peace in the area. President Carter and I have agreed to keep constantly in close touch, as in the past.

Let me say once again that I wish to express my deep gratitude to President Carter, Mrs Carter and all the American people for the warm welcome and good hospitality and generosity I have been accorded. I promise you, the American people, that I will be always proud of the feeling you have expressed toward me. Let me tell you this: I will not disappoint you. As I told President Carter before, I will not disappoint you. May God preserve you and may God take in his care my dear friend President and Mrs Carter and their family. Thank you.

White House Statement

NC091309Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 9 Feb 78 NC

[Text] Today U.S. President Jimmy Carter once again declared his opposition to Israel's policy regarding the establishment of settlements in the occupied Arab territories.

The U.S. President described this policy as an obstacle in the way of establishing peace in the Middle East.

This was declared in a statement issued by the U.S. White House at the conclusion of the talks between Presidents Anwar as-Sadat and Carter. The statement said that President as-Sadat had informed the U.S. President that the road was still open to the resumption of talks with Israel--the talks which were suspended last month.

Observers say that President Carter's statement--the third official statement in this respect within 24 hours--will disturb the Israelis. Observers also say that it appears that the U.S. President is strongly inclined to sell 60 F-5 planes to Egypt. President as-Sadat's visit to Washington has thus acheived two goals.

Meeting with Arab Ambassadors

NC090055Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 2240 GMT 8 Feb 78 NC

[Text] Washington, 8 February--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat has declared that Egypt adheres to the two main points included in the resolutions of the Rabat Arab summit conference: the full restoration of the territory occupied in 1967 and the rights of the Palestinian people, over which there can be no bargaining.

During his meeting with Arab ambassadors in the U.S. capital, President as-Sadat explained that the declaration of principles must include an official and frank commitment by Israel regarding the territory occupied in 1967 and its return to its owners and regarding the rights of the people of Palestine.

At the meeting the president explained the developments in the situation after his historic initiative and the recall of the Egyptian delegation from the Political Committee meetings in Jerusalem and the circumstances which prevailed then.

The president began his speech by saying: I wanted to exhaust all means. I told our delegation to go [to Jerusalem], although I told members of the Egyptian National Security Council that we would achieve nothing at this meeting. Why? Because it was obvious where the method that was adopted before the meeting was leading.

Our delegation went to Jerusalem but we recalled it and halted the discussions. President Carter contacted me the moment I announced the recall of the Egyptian delegation. I agreed that the Military Committee should continue its meetings. However, we must be fully convinced that the Political Committee will be proceeding along the right path before it resumes. We must not continue along the wrong path we have been following. We want to proceed along the right path. It is my opinion that there are two points in addition to the declaration of principles on which we must agree before the resumption of the political discussions. These two points are: No side should contemplate aggression on the land or sovereignty of the other side. When we say that we accept Israel's existence as a state in the area, then Israel and everybody else must understand that we will not accept any incursion on the land or sovereignty of any of its neighboring countries. The same applies to us, because we do not want to attack the land or sovereignty of Israel.

Naturally, as you know, we insist on two main points in the declaration of principles. They are the points which were mentioned in the Rabat Arab summit conference [resolutions].

The first point is the full restoration of the territory occupied in 1967. The two main points in the Arab strategy on which we agreed in Rabat are the restoration of the territory occupied in 1967 and the rights of the Palestinian people, over which there can be no bargaining. The declaration of principles is supposed to include an official and clear commitment by Israel regarding the 1967 territory and its return to its owners and the rights of the Palestinian people. When we speak about the rights of the people of Palestine, we are actually speaking about two things. The first is the political aspect of the problem, which is the right of self-determination and the right of the Palestinians to establish their state. The second aspect is the question of refugees or what was mentioned in Resolution 242. We hope that after my return, the U.S. good offices between the sides will lead to something in this respect, God willing.

As I said today and I have always said, there is no scope for the resumption of the Political Committee meetings until we reach a clear, precise agreement on these matters. What I want to tell you is that my initiative and my visit to Jerusalem might not have been correctly understood by some. As you heard me say in my speech at the People's Assembly, I excuse those who were shocked by my initiative. What should have happened after the shock, though, is what happened among foreign circles in the outside world. We should have carried out a sound scientific analysis to know the dimensions [of the initiative]. What regrettably happened is that some were shocked. There is a scope for peace, but that some should resort to the method we know is regrettable. This is the method of emotionalism. Emotionalism is no longer acceptable anywhere. Millions of people in the world heard my speech at the Knesset. Even after this, some people acted as they did for reasons known to them. Talk is of no consequence as far as we are concerned. I believe that we are in a sacred battle and we must always handle our affairs in a sound manner which the world understands. We have not squandered anything.

Speech to Egyptian Students

NC0910052 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2340 GMT 8 Feb 78 NC

[Speech by Egyptian President as-Sadat at 8 February meeting with Egyptian students in the United States--recorded]

[Text] My student sons and daughters, as I said on a previous occasion, I am absolutely delighted to see in you the image of Egypt here in the United States. We are all proud of Egypt, which gave the world its first civilization and established the first government along the banks of the Nile at a time when several states, even great powers, lived in caves. I am indeed most delighted to meet with you and to see, in you, the image of Egypt here in the United States.

I want to reassure you, as always, that we are marching along the course we have chosen in order to build Egypt. We will, first and foremost, build Egypt on love, fraternity and dedication to work. We will build Egypt on devotion to and love of Egypt and toward all that Egypt requires so that it may take up its position under the sun today--a position befitting it as the first state and first civilization in the world, as acknowledged by everyone.

I will not conceal the fact that I came here this time--as I told the American people today in a farewell speech--feeling disappointed following my initiative in visiting Jerusalem.

The substance of the initiative was to rebel against the vicious circle in which we had placed ourselves and as a result of which we have gone to war four times. Our generations, my generation in particular, suffered from this. I am preparing things for your generation. I never want you to suffer what our generation suffered as a result of outbiddings, conflicts and baseless values and concepts. As you know, our people, of whom you are a part, are people of love and tolerance. In your faith, in Islam and Christianity, there is love, tolerance and peace. I was horrified by our sufferings.

This is why I embarked on my initiative to prove to the world that our people are the oldest people in the history of mankind who, by contemporary standards, can truly be civilized and rise above many others who now enjoy higher positions.

By my initiative in trying to achieve peace based on justice, I wanted to spare you and future generations the sufferings we have experienced. Why should we delay this and why should we waste time in false, futile conflicts and slogans, which we are the first to know will never materialize?

It would have been easier for me--my second term in office will expire in 1982--just to remain in office and hand over the position to whoever follows me, reclining upon God's wish. However, as I told your People's Assembly in Egypt, I would consider that I had failed if I could have done something to spare you the sufferings we had endured and did not do so. Therefore, I took the initiative, knowing the stands surrounding it, particularly by some Arab brothers who are used to trading in slogans and politics. I did not pay any attention to all this. The initiative could have been an adventure which might have ended my political life completely. I did not hesitate for a single moment when I became certain that it was my duty toward you and our future generation to spare you any suffering, even if my initiative were to be my last act as president of the republic.

During my visit with President al-Asad, 2 days before my visit to Jerusalem--you may have heard this since I declared it to the whole world--I told President al-Asad that even if this were my last mission as president of the republic I would embark on it gladly and at ease, because I wanted to spare our future generations, and particularly my generation, the sufferings we have experienced. I wanted to spare them this and to build Egypt by using love and fraternity and to spare us the consequences of futile political outbiddings and slogans. That is why I undertook my initiative.

As I told you, I was here in April 1977, less than a year ago. This time I came at President Carter's invitation. I came to meet with the American people and explain to them why I suspended the negotiations and recalled our minister of foreign affairs from Jerusalem. I explained this to President Carter during three lengthy sessions at Camp David. I explained all these details to the House and Senate committees of foreign affairs in lengthy sessions yesterday. Today I concluded these discussions with Secretary of State Vance and then met with President Carter to bid him farewell.

The situation is simply summed up in that we want peace based on justice, not peace at any price. When I saw that Israel wanted to divert the peace march from its course so that it could achieve what it had failed to do either by war or in all previous efforts, I suspended the talks and recalled the foreign minister because I will never accept this.

There are two things I cannot and will not allow anyone or any power--even the big powers--to harm: land and sovereignty. [applause]

Following my talks today, I can frankly and freely tell you that I met with full understanding from President Carter and the House and Senate. We agreed with the secretary of state on the next steps, God willing, regarding this settlement. In my speech to them, I promised the American people that I will not give up the peace mission. In fact, I cannot describe to you the feelings the American people have shown me. I have received thousands of cables daily in Cairo and here, supporting me and expressing people's feelings, which I cannot describe to you. I promised them that I will never abandon the cause of peace. However, it will always be a peace based on justice--that is, no aggression on land or sovereignty.

When I return home, God willing, I will begin the huge program of planning for Egypt up to the year 2000 and for receiving you in the new societies which we have begun planning for--whether in reclaiming the desert or in reconstruction, using the most modern technology of our times, in cooperation with all who can provide such technology. We will never stop. Our battle today has two parallel fronts: the question of liberation--the liberation of our territory, the Sinai and the Arab territory question--in parallel with and at the same time as reconstruction. We have endured enough in the past. There will be no excuse for us if we fail today in catching up with the world. We can utilize all the modern technology which is in our hands and offered to us. We must not stay backward but forge ahead.

This is why I want to inform you today that when Dr Faruq al-Baz came to Egypt he carried out very good research in Egypt's desert, in looking for minerals and other as yet undiscovered resources which are abundant in our country, Egypt. Dr al-Baz is one of you and a son of our people. I issued a decision today appointing him scientific adviser to the president of the republic.

I hope to see my sons come to Egypt after completing their studies so that they can work with me, just as Faruq al-Baz will, so that we may make up in the shortest possible time for all that was lost, God willing. [applause]

I wish you success. I ask you always to trust that Egypt is your country which cares for you and is proud of you. We are waiting for your return home so that you may assume the responsibility. You are the generation that must assume the responsibility. My generation is about to hand over the baton.

I ask God to grant you success so that you return home and take over the baton and move Egypt to the horizons that we all desire. May God grant you success. Peace be with you.

Departure for London

NC090555Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0200 GMT 9 Feb 78 NC

[Text] Washington, 8 February--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat and his delegation left Andrews Air Force Base in the suburbs of Maryland for London at 2040 Washington time, 0340 Cairo time.

The Egyptian president was seen off by U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, his wife and senior American officials. The president left Washington at the end of a successful 6-day visit to the United States to begin a tour of Europe which will include Britain, Germany, Romania, France and Italy. President as-Sadat is accompanied by People's Assembly Speaker Engineer Sayyid Mar'i, Deputy Prime Minister Hasan Kamil and Foreign Minister Muhammad Kamil.

COMMENTARY ON 'FORM' OF U.S. ROLE IN MIDDLE EAST

NC081516Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 8 Feb 78 NC

['Abd al-'Azim Hammad commentary: "The Required Form of the U.S. Role in the Middle East"]

[Excerpts] President Anwar as-Sadat concludes his U.S. visit with a final meeting with President Carter today. After this meeting an official statement will be issued on the talks held between the two presidents.

According to news reports, this statement is expected to contain the following points: 1) the U.S. determination to continue its efforts for peace and to play an active role in this respect; 2) the declaration of the most important principles on which peace in the Middle East can be based; 3) a specific U.S. stand with regard to the upcoming phase; and 4) bilateral Egyptian-U.S. relations and their attitude toward the problems of the African Continent as well as Egyptian-U.S. cooperation in the field of armament.

Without anticipating events, while waiting for the official release of the statement we can affirm that the nature of the present phase in the annals of the efforts being exerted for peace in the Middle East indeed makes it imperative for the United States to develop a more specific stand on the time factor and on practical moves for achieving peace in the Middle East. Certainly, these matters constitute the objective of Egyptian diplomacy in the present phase. President as-Sadat also made these points in his recent series of speeches and statements in the United States, particularly in his speech at the National Press Club and at his meeting with the chief editors and leading columnists of U.S. newspapers.

By saying that the nature of the present phase in the annals of the efforts being exerted for peace in the Middle East makes it imperative for U.S. policy to take a more specific stand on the time factor and on practical moves for achieving peace in the Middle East, we mean that the Arab side has played its full role in fully meeting the necessary conditions for settling the Arab-Israeli conflict. Consequently, it is logical to say that the peace efforts should not run into stumbling blocks and should not find their way into blind alleys again, because Israel too is constantly announcing that it wants peace.

However, what has really happened has run counter to all expectations, because Israel has invented a peace concept completely in conflict with the principles of the international community. Consequently, either the United States faces up to its responsibility regarding this state of affairs--which requires the United States to play an active, efficacious role in the peace process because it possesses all the factors needed to influence the situation in the Middle East, particularly Israel's position--or the Middle East will revert to the vicious circle in which it has existed throughout the past 30 years.

In view of the present state of affairs, there can be no convincing excuse that would justify to the Arab peoples and world public opinion the loss of the present ripe opportunity for achieving peace in the Middle East. This conclusion is confirmed by the fact that if we ask ourselves about the reasons for the danger of losing the present opportunity to achieve peace, what will we find? We will find that all the reasons are due to the fact that Israel, contrary to all the norms of international legitimacy, wants to retain parts of the occupied Arab territories and denies the Palestinian people their right to determine their own fate.

In doing these things, Israel relies solely on the language of force and faits accomplis. Obviously, the source of Israel's strength is the enormous support it has been given, and is still being given, by the United States.

There can be no doubt that the United States can channel this support toward achieving peace and stability in the Middle East, not toward occupation, expansion and the usurpation of Arab rights. From this one should derive a sound understanding of the U.S. role in the Middle East as more of a partner than a mediator. As this is the real description of the U.S. role in the area and as the present situation needs feasible, decisive steps on the path of peace, logic requires the U.S. policy to refrain from acting as only a mediator in the diplomatic field, when in fact it should play the role of partner.

VICE PRESIDENT MUBARAK MEETS TOP OFFICIALS 9 FEB

NC0912507 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 9 Feb 78 NC

[Text] Vice President Husni Mubarak today held a meeting in his office in 'Abadin Palace. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Mamduh Salim, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of War and War Production Gen Muhammad 'Abd al-Ghani al-Jamasi, Interior Minister Maj Gen Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali, and the chief of general intelligence.

WAR MINISTER AL-JAMASI MEETS WITH GHALI 8 Feb

NC0821317 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2124 GMT 8 Feb 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 8 February--Gen Muhammad 'Abd al-Ghani al-Jamasi, deputy prime minister and minister of war and war production, received Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Butrus Ghali this evening. The meeting lasted about 2 hours.

CABINET MEETS 8 FEB, REVIEWS POLITICAL SITUATION

NC0816307 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 8 Feb 78 NC

[Text] The cabinet met before noon today under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Mamduh Salim. Information and Culture Minister 'Abd al-Mun'im as-Sawi said the cabinet reviewed the political situation. The prime minister said President as-Sadat's present visit to the United States and some European states in continuing his courageous peace initiative has attracted world attention.

The prime minister added that the Egyptian people, who have unanimously supported their president and leader, are now closely following his trip and are according their full support to the steps the president is taking in the course of his present contacts.

The cabinet heard a detailed report by Gen Muhammad al-Jamasi, deputy prime minister and war minister, on the talks of the Military Committee which was formed by the Cairo conference and which was recently convened in Cairo.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Butrus Ghali reviewed matters related to the work of the Political Committee, the tasks awaiting the committee in the event it is convened, and the matters which are still the subject of differences between the two sides. He also dealt with the situation in the Horn of Africa and the difficulties arising from this situation as well as the tense relations between Ethiopia and Somalia and the tension which has appeared in northern Chad.

The cabinet also he rd a report by Dr 'Abd al-Mun'im al-Qaysuni on the plan [not further identified]--and the problems the committee on building society is trying to resolve on a sound basis. He pointed out that this year's plan is double that of last year--which calls for real efforts to implement and follow the plan.

The prime minister stressed the need for rapid submission of a report assessing the results of the implementation of the plan in 1967-77 in the wake of the major achievements made during that period in order to avoid any obstacles.

The cabinet endorsed a bill establishing the National Investment Bank. It also endorsed a draft presidential decree-law determining the provisions governing the cost of living aid to care for state workers.

AL-AHRAM: NEW SYSTEM OF CONSCRIPTION INTRODUCED

LD081342Y Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 5 Feb 78 p 1 LD

[Text] A new system for the military conscription of university graduates comes into effect this year. Under the new system, graduates with high qualifications will be inducted in four groups: in January, April, July and October. This will be done in accordance with a specific plan aimed at providing the necessary number of highly qualified people to meet the requirements of the armed forces, as permitted under the national service law.

The new induction system enables the armed forces to always have graduates with high qualifications as a major element in the armed forces units. Accordingly, there will always be three groups of university graduates in the armed forces, while a fourth group will be in training.

The new system will be applied to graduates of the June 1977 term who have been divided into three groups with the help of a computer. The first group was actually inducted in October 1977 and the second last January. The third and last group will be inducted next April. The graduates of the November 1977 term are expected to be inducted next July.

Under the new system graduates of the June term will report to the military recruitment department each October, when the first group will be inducted in accordance with the specialities and numbers required. The rest of the graduates will be distributed among the two subsequent groups and will be given letters saying that the graduate "will be subject to induction on 1 January or 1 April," depending on the group in which he is to be enlisted. In the meantime the letters can be used in support of a job application.

Graduates of the November term will report to recruitment areas each January or immediately after the results of their exams are announced in order to register their qualifications and to be issued letters subjecting them to induction on 1 July of the same year.

GDR DEPUTY PREMIER RECEIVED BY VICE PRESIDENT MA'RUF

JN0911122Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1010 GMT 9 Feb 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 9 February--Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf this morning received GDR Deputy Premier Guenther Kleiber and the accompanying delegation. During the meeting, issues of joint interest and relations between the two friendly countries and means to strengthen and develop them in the service and interest of the Iraqi and German peoples were discussed.

The meeting was attended by Foreign Ministry Under Secretary 'Abd al-Malik al-Yasin and Iraqi Ambassador to the GDR Zuhayr al-Bayragdar.

Kleiber has been visiting Iraq for a week to discuss development of mutual cooperation in a number of industrial, economic and agricultural domains.

Attends Plant Opening

LD0715599Y East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1447 GMT 7 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Baghdad--The fourth day of the visit to Iraq by the GDR Government delegation, led by Guenther Kleiber, candidate member of the SED Politburo, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister for construction of general and agricultural machinery and vehicles, was marked by the opening of projects constructed by the GDR in this country.

Guenther Kleiber and Iraqi Minister of Trade Hasan Ali al-Amiri, member of the Regional command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and of the Revolution Command Council [RCC], opened the rice silo plant in Shamiya and the rice mill in Abu Sukhair.

Both ministers honored workers of the firms involved in the construction of the plants for their outstanding achievements. Guenther Kleiber described these two projects, which were carried out on the basis of agreements beween the GDR foreign trade firm for transport machines and the state organization for grain, as a further example of the close economic cooperation between these two friendly states.

The rice silo plant in Shamiya is the fifth plant constructed so far by the GDR. The GDR is involved in the construction of 7 plants in Iraq's silo program. The rice mill in Abu Sukhair, together with an already constructed silo plant, forms a complete complex for processing rice.

The GDR Fortschritt Neustadt Kombinat, Dresden Bezirk, supplied all of the technological equipment for the plants.

On Monday an agreement was signed between the GDR and Iraq on the construction of three wheat mills, capable of processing 200 tons each per day. These three mills are part of an Iraqi Government program to develop the state mill sector.

SADDAM HUSAYN RECEIVES PDRY DEFENSE MINISTER

JN0911103Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1055 GMT 9 Feb 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 9 February--RCC Vice Chairman Saddam Husayn this afternoon received PDRY Defense Minister 'Ali 'Antar in his office at the National Command Building. The meeting was attended by Defense Minister 'Adnan Khayrallah. It should be recalled that 'Antar has been in Iraq for several days.

SAUDI POSTAL SERVICES OFFICIAL ARRIVES FOR TALKS

JN041915Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1755 GMT 4 Feb 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 4 February--Assistant Director of the General Postal Services in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia 'Abd al-Hadi al-Habashi arrived in Baghdad this evening, leading a technical delegation on a visit of several days to Iraq. The delegation will hold talks with officials at the Ministry of Transport on cooperation between the two countries in the fields of postal services and the possibility of concluding a bilateral agreement in this field.

LEBANESE COMMUNIST ORGANIZATION OFFICIAL ARRIVES

JN060858Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0850 GMT 6 Feb 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 6 February--Fawwaz Tarabulsi, member of the Politburo of the Communist Action Organization in Lebanon, and Musa Shu'ayb, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party in Lebanon, arrived in Baghdad last night on a visit of several days to Iraq.

Abu 'Ali Mustafa, member of the Politburo of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, and Hassunah Shawish, representative of the permanent secretariat of the Arab popular congress, have also arrived in Baghdad.

CUBAN, ROMANIAN DELEGATIONS ARRIVE FOR CELEBRATIONS

JN061655Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1601 GMT 6 Feb 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 6 February--Delegations representing the Committees for the Defense of the Cuban Revolution [CDR] and the Romanian Patriotic Guards arrived in Baghdad this evening to attend the celebrations marking the eighth anniversary of the Iraqi Popular Army.

The Cuban delegation is led by Jorge Lezcano Perez, coordinator of the National Bureau and Secretariat of the National Directorate of the CDR. The Romanian delegation is led by Vasile Milea, member of the Romanian Communist Party Central Committee and assistant chief of staff of the Patriotic Guards [title as received].

Other delegations are expected to attend the celebrations later.

SOVIET AAPSO DELEGATION LEAVES BAGHDAD

JN071533Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0930 GMT 7 Feb 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 7 February--Aleksandr Raskhov, first deputy chiarman of the Soviet AAPSO Committee, left Baghdad this morning at the end of a 3-day visit to Iraq. During the visit the members of his delegation held talks with officials in the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command and in the National Council for Peace and Solidarity concerning preparations for the AAPSO meeting scheduled to convene in Nicosia this month.

SAUDI, BAHRAINI INFORMATION MINISTERS LEAVE BAGHDAD

JN090917Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0750 GMT 9 Feb 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 9 February--The Arab Gulf information ministers have begun to leave Baghdad after taking part in the meetings of the third conference of the Arab Gulf information ministers, which concluded yesterday.

The Saudi delegation under Information Minister Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani left Baghdad this morning. Yamani described the conference resolutions as constructive and objective. He said in a statement that the conference was characterized by objectivity, scientific methods, farsightedness and a joint desire to direct all information media in the area in the service of the common aims.

The Bahraini delegation under information Minister Tariq 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Mu'ayyad also left today. Al-Mu'ayyad said that the resolutions of the conference were characterized by seriousness and realism and reflected the desire of the brothers in the area to coordinate their work in all fields. The resolutions are a beginning for projects beneficial to the citizens in the area, particularly as information media play a basic role in spreading culture and education and in demonstrating aspects of culture to Arab youth. The Bahraini information minister expressed his admiration for the development of the information media in Iraq, as reflected in the level of the information media and its standard.

PEACE COUNCIL DELEGATION LEAVES FOR ATHENS MEETING

JN081121Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0930 GMT 8 Feb 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 8 February--The delegation of the National Council for Peace and Solidarity left for Athens this morning to take part in the conference of security, peace and cooperation in the Mediterranean area which will begin its activities tomorrow.

Head of the delegation and council Secretary General 'Aziz Sharif said before leaving that the conference will also discuss the issue of the Palestinian Arab people and their rights to return home and determine their future, which are considered indivisible from the security of the area. The conference will also call for the liquidation of the imperialist-Zionist aggression in the area and the removal of hostile foreign bases in the area.

The delegation includes 'Abd al-Fattah Muhammad Amin, 'Aziz Rashid and Jibra'il Ishaq, members of the Council for Peace and Solidarity in Iraq.

The delegation is scheduled to visit Nicosia after the conference to attend the emergency meeting of the board of secretaries of AAPSO, which will be held there on Monday. This meeting will discuss issues of concern to liberation movements, peace organizations and solidarity organization in the Afro-Asian countries and also the Palestinian Arab people's issue and South African people's struggle against racist regimes. The meeting will further discuss strenghening the unity of the anti-imperialist progressive forces.

RADIO CLAIMS SYRIA ISSUED WORTHLESS CURRENCY

JN071514Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1425 GMT 7 Feb 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 7 February--The Voice of Arab Syria has revealed that the Al-Asad regime has released into the Syrian market a large amount of Syrian paper money which is not covered by hard currency. In a broadcast monitored here today, the radio said that the Syrian regime resorted to this measure in a desperate attent to save the collapsing economy. The measure, the radio said, shows the regime's fumbling and will adversely affect the general state of the Syrian economy. It will also lead to increased inflation and price increases, the radio added.

The radio asserted that the rife corruption and illegal profits are increasing daily in Syria and this makes the problem difficult to tackle.

PRIME MINISTER MAKES STATEMENT ON ALGIERS CONFERENCE

JN081230Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 8 Feb 78 JN

[Text] In reply to a question by the REUTERS correspondent in Amman about the results of the Algiers conference, Prime Minister Mudar Badran said:

The most prominent result of the Algiers conference as far as we are concerned is its resolution providing for supporting for Syria in confronting the Israeli expansionist aggression on our northern front. Within this context, support for Syria will help support our steadfastness in Jordan, considering that we shoulder the same pan-Arab commitment in confronting the Zionist aggressive ambitions, represented in the consolidation of Israel's occupation of Arab land and its clear refusal to implement the principles of just peace on which the international will is unanimous.

The prime minister added: Such support is the correct and sound way to build Arab intrinsic power, and particularly to support the confrontation states, which before anything else need the support to enable them to carry out their pan-Arab duty to recover our land and shrines and to defend our Arab land.

PAPER SAYS ISRAELI STAND STALLS TALKS WITH EGYPT

JN080738Y Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 8 Feb 78 pp 1, 13 JN

[Editorial: "The Required Formula"]

[Text] After President Carter has shown President as-Sadat his country's cards concerning U.S. ability to influence the Israeli-Egyptian negotiations, it has become obvious that the efforts made have reached a deadlock. Despite this neither the United States nor Egypt nor Israel wants to admit that Israel's stand is the main and sole reason for stopping the negotiations. They also do not want to admit that the negotiations have actually failed. No one wants to admit failure and for this reason Atherton will return to shuttle between Egypt and Israel in an attempt to find a formula for the declaration of principles acceptable to the two parties.

The problem does not lie in the declaration of principles as much as in the extent of Israel's commitment to carry out these principles in order to achieve peace in the area.

The return of U.S. mediation efforts at the level of Atherton means that a vague, elastic formula acceptable to the Egyptian and Israeli sides will be sought. What we fear most is that Israel will exploit such a formula to bring the peace efforts to a deadlock once it has achieved its phased aims in the Middle East. In other words, Israel, which has not changed its intransigent stand, will only accept a formula for the declaration of principles which leaves room for maneuvering to thwart the peace efforts at any stage in which Israel makes gains in its strategy of perpetuating Arab disintegration and isolating Arab fronts.

The lack of Arab ability to confront Israel is regrettable and perhaps deadly. Fraternal Egypt is required, at the minimum, not to accept less than the formula that will insure clear interpretation of Israel's commitments in the declaration of principles, if an agreed formula is to be reached. Otherwise pan-Arab honor commits Egypt as well as all Arab brothers to stop their sacred march toward peace because all avenues leading to it have been blocked by Israel's expansionist ambitions and its aggressive intentions and settlements.

SOVIET TOURISM DELEGATION LEAVES AMMAN; STATEMENT ISSUED

JN061650Y Amman JNA in Arabic 1555 GMT 6 Feb 78 JN

[Text] Amman, 6 February--Jordan and the Soviet Union have affirmed that the consolidation of world peace and the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East, resulting from a comprehensive solution of the issue and the participation of all the parties concerned, will help expand tourist cooperation between Jordan and the Soviet Union.

In a press statement released following the final session of talks held in the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities today, the two sides affirmed that tourist relations between the two countries are developing successfully and that the scope for the development of these relations is good. The two sides also affirmed that the signing of a tourism agreement between Jordan and the Soviet Union will contribute to the strengthening of relations in this field.

The Jordanian and Soviet sides agreed on the importance of exchanging material and information for the promotion of tourism between the two countries. They also agreed on the importance of activating Jordanian travel and tourism offices. The Soviet side proposed the hosting to two delegates from these offices to strengthen tourism relations.

In the statement the two sides affirmed that all the discussions and meetings were held in an atmosphere of understanding and desire to develop cooperation. They also affirmed that the Soviet delegation's visit to Jordan will contribute to the strengthening of relations of friendship and understanding between both countries.

The Jordanian side was headed by Ghalib Barakat, minister of tourism and antiquities, while the Soviet side was headed by Sergey Nikitin, chief of the administration for foreign tourism in the USSR Council of Ministers.

Nikitin and the tourism delegation accompanying him left Amman this afternoon. They were seen off by Ghalib Barakat, minister of tourism and antiquities, and the Soviet ambassador in Amman.

PAPER CALLS FOR SYRIAN-JORDANIAN COOPERATION

JN081051Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 8 Feb 78 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Damascus Pays Homage to Al-Asad," AL-AKHBAR says: Amid increasing popular marches and manifestations of absolute support, Damascus and all Syrian governorates and Syrian citizens everywhere march today to pay homage again to President al-Asad as a leader of Syria and a pan-Arab leader, in view of what the Syrian Arab stand symbolizes these days.

The paper further says: As the two fraternal countries have cooperated, integrated and coordinated their efforts in the past 3 years, it is hoped that fraternal relations between the two countries will strengthen. It is also hoped that Syrian-Jordanian cooperation will be a brick in the Arab structure in the face of the defiance which Zionism has these days unmasked more ferociously than ever before.

BEIRUT CLASHES CONTINUE; PEACE EFFORTS UNDERWAY

Voice of Lebanon 8 Feb Report

NC081819Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1715 GMT 8 Feb 78 NC

[Excerpts] Efforts to restore calm are continuing. Meanwhile, exchanges of artillery and light weapons fire continued today. The parties have not yet reached agreement on a cease-fire. Although exact information about losses is not yet available, a number of people have been killed or wounded as a result of the shelling.

The streets of the capital and its suburbs were almost deserted today after a number of saboteurs resorted to acts of suppression, particularly in Ash-Shiyah area opposite 'Ayn ar-Rummanah. Armed civilians, most of them aliens and party members, appeared on the streets in the western area, particularly in the areas of Sabra, Corniche al-Bustani, Ar-Ramla Al-Hamra' Street, as well as in the area of (?Al-Hursh). Elements of some of the Palestinian organizations also appeared on the streets. A violent clash took place in the Gallery Sim'an area between Lebanese and alien armed elements.

The exchange of fire resumed suddenly before noon today between elements of the Arab deterrent forces and of the Lebanese Army stationed at Al-Fayyadiyah barracks. The smoke was observed from the heavy shelling directed at Al-Fayyadiyah, while some of the barracks positions were returning the fire. The shelling from the artillery of the Syrian forces intensified this evening. Rocket launchers from Burj Rizq and other places were used against some of the [word indistinct] positions.

It has been reported that incidents took place near some roadblocks and on some streets. Heavy firing continued in all [words indistinct].

This evening the prime minister and a number of ministers went to B'abda Palace. They are still holding consultations on the current situation and ways to solve the situation.

Beirut Radio 8 Feb Report

NC082009Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 8 Feb 78 NC

[Text] The intensive efforts officials exerted throughout the day today on all levels in cooperation with the Syrian brothers have led to halting the regrettable clashes which were renewed this morning in Al-Fayyadiyah quarter. Tension has eased and an atmosphere of optimism is prevailing now.

Voice of Lebanon 9 Feb Report

NC090710Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 9 Feb 78 NC

[Excerpts] The sound of machinegun fire and a few explosions were heard after midnight last night in Beirut and [words indistinct]. A youth was hit in the leg as he was trying to cross the road in the Mar Yuhannah Al-Ashrafiyah area. His relatives came under fire several times as they attempted to take the wounded youth to his home. There have been relatively few explosions in the areas of Al-Musaytibah and Sabra suburbs and in some quarters of Al-Ashrafiyah. The situation appears to be calm this morning.

The losses which were sustained in yesterday's clashes have not yet been assessed, although some people say that at least 60 persons were killed or wounded on both sides. It was reported earlier today that deterrent forces units moved during the night from Al-Biqa' area and took up positions on the 'Alayh-Al-Kahhalah road.

INA Reports New Fighting

JN091016Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1000 GMT 9 Feb 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 9 February--The situation in east Beirut suburbs exploded again this morning after a brief period of calm last night. An exchange of fire with artillery and heavy machineguns began between the Syrian deterrent forces and the forces of the Phalangist and Liberal parties in Al-Fayyadiyah area in east Beirut. The explosion of artillery shells was heard throughout Beirut.

The INA correspondent has reported that the clashes spread to other areas, especially to Ash-Shiyah and 'Ayn ar-Rummanah, where rocket launchers, field artillery and tank guns were used. The correspondent reported that great tension is prevailing in other areas where large numbers of armed men are present.

A series of high-level meetings have begun at the Republican Palace to deal with the security situation, as a total explosion is threatened. President Ilyas Sarkis chaired a meeting attended by Foreign and Defense Minister Fu'ad Butrus, deterrent forces commander Lt Col Sami al-Khatib, Public Security Director Faruq Abu al-Lam' and Prime Minister Salim al-Huss. It has been learned that a high-level Syrian delegation will arrive in Beirut later today. Sources at the Republican Palace have indicated that Syrian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Air Force Commander Maj Gen Naji Jamil will be part of this delegation.

Meanwhile, seven members of the deterrent forces were killed when fire was opened on two vehicles belonging to these forces while they were on patrol duty between Ash-Shiyah and 'Ayn ar-Rummanah areas at dawn today. The INA correspondent reported that sniping between Ash-Shiyah and 'Ayn ar-Rummanah has prevented the removal of the bodies, which remained in the street this morning. The correspondent further reported that armed men have visibly spread out near certain points of previous friction, especially in Ash-Shiyah and 'Ayn ar-Rummanah, while a large number of armed rightists were seen in east Beirut, where traffic is nonexistent.

MENA Reports on Situation

NC091140Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1017 GMT 9 Feb 78 NC

[Excerpt] Beirut, 9 February--Calm has generally been prevailing in the areas of the clashes in Beirut and its suburbs. The calm began growing gradually after midnight last night, following reports that an agreement on a cease-fire had been reached. However, sporadic explosions are heard from time to time, and there is a general feeling that the situation is not stable and that the problems have not yet been solved.

The situation is expected to become clear today after the Syrian military delegation returns to Beirut and resumes its contacts with officials. This delegation--which includes the defense minister, Mustafa Talas, and the deputy defense minister and commander of the air force and air defense, Maj Gen Naji Jamil--began its contacts yesterday. These contacts resulted in the gradual reduction in the number of clashes.

The clashes intensified yesterday afternoon when armed men of the Phalangist and National Liberal parties spread out in a number of Christian quarters in the eastern area. Clashes took place between them and a deterrent forces unit. One of the fiercest clashes took place in the Al-Ashrafiyah quarter, where the main headquarters of the National Liberal Party is situated. The headquarters came under heavy fire by deterrent forces units. There were a number of casualties on both sides. The Voice of Lebanon radio, which belongs to the Phalangist Party, was also shelled. Some sources have said that the Syrian deterrent forces have occupied the offices of the National Liberal Party in a number of areas.

Reports received this morning indicate that tension has extended to the coastal town of Juniyah in northern Beirut and to the neighboring township of Hamaba, where one of the Lebanese Army barracks is situated. Tension has also spared to the town of Zahlah. Calm has prevailed in the western area of Beirut, where there is a Moslem majority, although there were some explosions during the night.

INA: Syrians Moving Toward Beirut

JN091030Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1018 GMT 9 Feb 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 9 February--Arrivals from Al-Biqa' area adjoining the Syrian border have stated that a large Syrian force supported by vehicles has moved in the direction of Beirut, following the fresh outbreak of clashes between the deterrent forces and the militia of the Phalangist and Liberals parties in east Beirut suburbs. These travelers said the Syrian forces are now manning positions in the hills 15 km from Beirut between 'Aley and Al-Kahhalah townships to control the Beirut-Damascus international highway.

Meanwhile, military operations which began this morning in Beirut spread out to At-Tayyunah circle between Ash-Shiyah and 'Ayn ar-Rummanah and Badaru Street, where the army barracks and the military hospital are located. A number of shells fell on residential areas in both parts of Beirut causing a number of civilian casualties.

Wounding of Sham'un Denied

NC081746Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1715 GMT 8 Feb 78 NC

[Text] Reporting on the clashes in Beirut, a foreign radio station said this evening that former President Camille Sham'un was slightly wounded as a result of the exchange of gunfire. The command of the National Liberal Party [words indistinct] has denied the report, saying it is totally untrue.

Al-Huss Efforts To Contain Clashes

NC081623Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 8 Feb 78 NC

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss is continuing to follow developments in the security situation resulting from the renewal of the clashes in Al-Fayyadiyah quarter this morning between the same elements that clashed yesterday. Dr al-Huss held contacts with the commander of the Arab deterrent forces, the command of the Lebanese Army and the commanders of the internal security forces. He also held a series of meetings with Interior Minister Dr Salah Salman during which they discussed the situation. Minister Salman said: In the contacts we held we noted the desire on the part of everyone to stop the deterioration of the situation.

Cabinet Discusses Latest Events

NC081839Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 8 Feb 78 NC

[Text] A cabinet meeting presided over by President Sarkis and attended by Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss and all the ministers started at 1700 today and ended half an hour ago. It was entirely devoted to the security situation.

After the meeting Prime Minister al-Huss made a statement in which he said: The cabinet devoted its meeting this evening to a discussion of the security situation in the country. It reviewed the steps and measures which have been adopted and the contacts which have been made to restore the situation to normal in the wake of the incidents which have occurred during the past 2 days and which have greatly pained everybody. While we hope e that these measures and contacts will result in a speedy relaxation, we appeal to the citizens to maintain calm and prudence.

Khaddam Expected in Beirut

NC090733Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 9 Feb 78 NC

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] AL-'AMAL says that the clashes stopped last night. It adds that the Syrian foreign minister, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, will arrive in Beirut today to participate in the efforts that are being exerted to stop the clashes.

Syrian Officials Arrive

NC090745Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 9 Feb 78 NC

[Text] Prime Minister Salim al-Huss followed security developments from his office in government house yesterday. He held continuous contacts with the Lebanese Army command and the commander of the Arab deterrent forces. He also met with Interior Minister Dr Salah Salman for the same purpose.

Minister Salman said that the causes of the crisis are being tackled calmly so as to prevent any repetition. He added that the intentions of all sides are good, particularly since a continued crisis will be detrimental to everyone.

Last night, Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil expressed regret over the clashes. He urged all Lebanese and Syrian officials to work to put an end to them fast because the clashes constitute a great danger and harm to Lebanon and fraternal Syria if they continue.

Syrian officials arrived in Lebanon yesterday to participate in the efforts to pacify the situation.

Butrus Leaves for Damascus

JN091035Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1020 GMT 9 Feb 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 9 February--At noon today Lebanese Deputy Prime Minister and Defense and Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus left Beirut for Damascus for a brief and sudden visit to Syria. Fu'ad Butrus is accompanied by deterrent Arab forces commander Lt Col Sami al-Khatib and former President Sulayman Franjiyah.

Before leaving Beirut, Butrus met with President Ilyas Sarkis. A brief meeting was also held between Ilyas Sarkis and Sulayman Franjiyah. Sources at the palace said the Lebanese delegation, whose departure was suddenly decided upon, will discuss with the Syrian officials the outbreak of clashes between the Syrian deterrent forces and the Phalangist and Liberal forces which are threatening to spread out.

Security Situation Discussed

NC091256Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 9 Feb 78 NC

[Text] Since early today senior officials have been focusing their efforts on tackling the reasons for the deterioration of the security situation in the wake of the Al-Fayyadiyah clashes. The Republican Palace was the scene of these efforts. The meetings which were held at this palace under the chairmanship of President Ilyas Sarkis have resulted in the dispatch of a delegation to Damascus to put the finishing touches to the contacts underway to tackle the situation. The delegation is composed of former President Sulayman Franjiyah; Fu'ad Butrus, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs and defense; and Lt Col Sami al-Khatib.

At 1030 today President Sarkis received former President Sulayman Franjiyah. Before that President Sarkis held a security meeting attended by Dr Salim al-Huss, the prime minister; Fu'ad Butrus, deputy prime minister, minister of foreign and expatriates affairs and defense minister; Lt Col Sami al-Khatib, commander of the Arab deterrent forces; and Amir Faruq Abu al-Lam', director general of the Public Security Department. Speaker Kamil al-As'ad joined the conferees at 1230.

Furthermore, the Defense Ministry at Al-Yarzih was the scene of concerted efforts and talks between Syrian and Lebanese Army command officers aimed at ending the clashes, effecting a definitive cease-fire, restoring amity and love and amputating the sinful hand which is reaching out to wreak havoc and harm the people. The friendly meetings were pervaded by an atmosphere of cooperation and brotherhood.

As far as security is concerned, the information available shows that tension continues to grip the areas of yesterday's clashes. These areas have witnessed sporadic shooting. Furthermore, it has been observed that traffic was light in the capital and its suburbs because of the prevalent security situation and since today is an official holiday to mark Mar Marun day.

However, the contacts underway have generated new hope for curbing the causes of the clashes and returning the security situation to stability and calm.

Two Papers Fail To Appear

NC091030Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1022 GMT 9 Feb 78 NC

[Text] Beirut, 9 February--The Lebanese newspapers AL-ANWAR and AL-AHRAR failed to appear today because their offices are situated in the areas where the clashes took place yesterday.

Isolationist Plot Seen

NC090917Y Doha QNA in Arabic 0740 GMT 9 Feb 78 NC

[Text] Doha, 9 February--Reliable sources of the Lebanese progressive movement have affirmed to the Qatari newspaper AL-'ARAB that what has been taking place in Lebanon in the past 2 days in only a prelude to a bitter civil war of grave dimensions. The same sources told AL-'ARAB that a number of the officers who were responsible for the Al-Fayyadiyah barracks and who are now being detained have confirmed during the investigation into the recent incidents that the isolationist alliance is behind the clashes which took place between the new Lebanese recruits and the Arab deterrent forces.

The sources added that the command of the isolationist alliance in Juniyah had summoned a number of officers from the Al-Fayyadiyah barracks a few days ago and asked them to start a clash with the deterrent forces and that it would come in on their side at the appropriate time. Quoting the same sources, AL-'ARAB says that the isolationist command had instructed the mutinous officers that in the event the clashes with the deterrent forces continue, then they should declare a general strike [idrab 'amman] in the areas under their command and detonate a number of bombs to provoke and cause friction with the Arab deterrent forces.

Quoting the same sources, AL-'ARAB further adds that the isolationist command had also told the mutinous officers that the goal of their decision to explode the situation is to have the deterrent forces removed from Lebanon because these sources view them as "invasion forces" and complete strangers, just as they view the Palestinians.

The paper says that Syria realized that the situation was grave and discovered the isolationist plot after the recent isolationist summit meeting. As a result it began to send reinforcements to Lebanon and concentrated on Al-Fayyadiyah barracks because the reliable information Syria had received indicated that the barracks would be the center of the mutiny. The sources added that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad is maintaining constant contact with Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis and that Al-Asad has told Sarkis that Syria will continue to stand at Lebanon's side and will forcefully strike at the new plot.

BAGHDAD REPORTS FIGHTING INCREASES IN S. LEBANON

JN091230Y Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 9 Feb 78 JN

[Excerpt] In southern Lebanon, the scope of the clashes between the joint forces of the Lebanese nationalist movement and the Palestinian resistance on the one hand and the rightwing forces on the other has expanded. Reports received from Beirut say that the rightwing forces concentrated their fire during the clashes on the villages of Kafr Tibnit, Al-Khardali and Bint Jubayl. The reports add that traffic came to a standstill in the areas adjoining the combat axes in the south.

The joint forces confronted Zionist enemy gunboats in the area between An-Naqurah and Sidon and forced them to flee.

VOICE OF LEBANON RADIO REPORTS CLASHES IN MUTWALLAH

NO090641Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 9 Feb 78 NC

[Text] Fierce clashes have taken place between the Lebanese and armed Palestinians in the Mutwallah township in the southern border area. A number of armed foreigners have been killed. The Lebanese have liberated the town and expelled the armed men from it.

MENA: PALESTINIANS TO CLOSE AN-NABATIYA OFFICES

NC091025Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1020 GMT 9 Feb 78 NC

[Text] Beirut, 9 February--Sources of the national movement in Lebanon report that it has been agreed to close down the offices of the Palestinian Fedayeen organizations and to withdraw armed persons from the main streets and residential quarters of An-Nabatiyah township in southern Lebanon.

The same sources add that this agreement was reached during meetings held yesterday with the representatives of the Palestinian resistance in An-Nabatiyah. They add that the implementation of the agreement is proceeding well.

ABU IYAD MEETS WITH BA'TH PARTY OFFICIAL

JN081726Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1705 GMT 8 Feb 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 8 February--Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, has met with Comrade 'Asim Qansuh, regional secretary of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party organization in Lebanon. Following the meeting, Abu Iyad said that the discussion revolved around the issues of concern to both the resistance and the pan-Arab front. He added: We agreed to take certain steps and to intensify contacts so as to achieve unity of the pan-Arab ranks.

AL-ASAD SPEAKS TO PRESS ON PRESIDENTIAL REFERENDUM

JN081545Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 8 Feb 78 JN

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad has joined the citizens in exercising their right and performing their voting duty in the public referendum on the presidency. At 1220 today his excellency proceeded to the polling station at Jawdat al-Hashimi secondary school, where he was met at the entrance by Brig 'Adnan Dabbagh, minister of interior; Comrade Muhammad 'Ali al-Ashqar, secretary of the Damascus branch of the Socialist Arab Ba'th party; and Faruq al-Hamu, governor of the city of Damascus.

The president was met by cheering crowds outside the polling station. After casting his vote, his excellency answered questions from reporters and correspondents of Arab and foreign news agencies. The following are the president's statements to the reporters and the correspondents of Arab and foreign news agencies at noon today: [begin recording]

[Question] Mr President, I would like to ask you today, 8 February--a day which has become a national holiday on which the people will pledge allegiance to you for the next presidential term--about your feelings as you lead our people in this serious phase of their struggle.

[Answer] My feeling is one of confidence and optimism about the future. Optimism is where the people are. It has never happened in any period of history that the people were in one trench and confidence and optimism about the future were in another.

[Question] Mr President, when you took the oath in March 1971, you said that the position of president only signifies honesty and responsibility and that the popular support you enjoyed was only support for policies and principles. What would you like to add on this occasion now that the Syrian people have given you their confidence for another 7 years?

[Answer] I still believe that the position cannot be an aim in itself. The position is a means to achieve an objective and this objective is a popular one. All the means we use aim at achieving the aspirations of our masses for liberation, reconstruction, development and facilitating a suitable and dignified life for all the citizens in this country and, as much as we can, for every Arab citizen.

[Question] Mr President, as newsmen we have observed that the general feeling among the Syrian people as they vote "yes" for His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad is that they are voting particularly for steadfastness. Are you satisfied with the solidarity of this front? Can we say that what has taken place in Algiers is sufficient to foil any plots being hatched in the region?

[Answer] Definitely. We believe we are still at the beginning of the road of consolidating the front of steadfastness. However, a beginning is inevitable for any action. We are embarking on a great work by forming the front of steadfastness and insuring the requirements of steadfastness. We mean what we say. We have already taken certain reasonable and acceptable steps in this direction.

[Question] Mr President, concerning Lebanon, there are still many obstacles preventing the achievement of a complete and final peace. Do you not think it is time complete and final security was achieved in Lebanon as a result of the fraternal Syrian initiative?

[Answer] There is no doubt that the area is subjected to difficult and complicated circumstances, because this region is the target of big foreign powers. Lebanon is a link in this chain. Lebanon, or the Lebanese problem, is a part of the general problem in this area. Nevertheless, we must do our utmost to separate the Lebanese problem from other problems in the area. We must handle the Lebanese problem on this basis. In my opinion, the positive results achieved so far in Lebanon were not easy. Still, we hope to achieve further results. We hope that all of Lebanon will again exercise its normal life in the economic, cultural, political and other fields. I am also optimistic about this.

[Question] Mr President, the president of Lebanon and the Lebanese people and government share the joy of the Syrian people on this occasion. Would you like to say anything to the Lebanese people?

[Answer] You have undoubtedly heard me and our Syrian people say in the past that we share the sufferings and hopes of the Lebanese people. It is because of this that the Syrian people exerted great efforts and made big sacrifices for the sake of the fraternal Lebanese people. This is our duty in Syria. We will continue to perform our duty of exerting every possible effort for the sake of the Lebanese people. Please convey my greetings to every citizen in Lebanon and to brother President Ilyas Sarkis.

[Question] Mr President, you are on the threshold of a new term in national and pan-Arab action. What would you like to say to the masses of the Syrian Arab people who love you and whom you love?

[Answer] I would like to say that what I am most proud of are the great effusive sentiments which I and everyone feel everywhere--in every town, village and quarter in this country; and in the schools, in factories and on plantations. One cannot find the words to express these feelings. These feelings are absolutely incomparable. However, these feelings are the main source of strength, resolution and determination. What I would like to stress is that this national solidarity and this national consciousness will achieve the objectives we seek. No power and no enemy, no matter how despotic, can triumph over a people who hold such sentiments, determination and solidarity. I would just like to express my warm cordial greetings to every citizen in our country--to the children, to the aged, to the men and to the women. As you can see, everyone is rushing to exercise his right and to perform his duty. With such a sense of responsibility, as I said, we will achieve victory and achieve our objectives in the various walks of life.

[Question] Excuse me, Mr President. You are now fighting the plots being hatched against our Arab people. Would you address some words to our masses in the occupied territory who look to you today as their hope for steadfastness and liberation?

[Answer] I do not want our brothers and sons in the occupied territory and elsewhere to despair. The issues of peoples demand endurance, a long bitter struggle and extreme patience. We in Syria have been and are still experiencing this central main issue with all our feelings.

This was how we were in the past, how we are today and how we will be in the future. We have confronted all the plots aimed at instilling despair in the hearts of our sons and brothers in the occupied territory. At certain times, especially recently, these plots have been aimed at sowing the seeds of doubt about Syria's attitude toward these brothers and sons. However, time has proved us to be correct. We have suffered a great deal in this country in defense of the cause of these sons and brothers in our occupied territory. This is how our position will be in the future: Absolute determination and uncompromising sacrifices for the sake of the Palestine question. As we understand it, the Palestine question is one whole issue with all its elements. We will not compromise, hesitate or retreat.

[Question] Thank you, Mr President. [end recording]

The president also answered questions from radio and television correspondents. We will broadcast all the questions and answers in our subsequent newscast.

Further Details

JN081817Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 8 Feb 78 JN

[Excerpts] President Hafiz al-Asad has joined the citizens in exercising their right and performing their voting duty in the public referendum on the presidency.

After casting his vote the president answered questions from journalists and correspondents of radios, television networks and Arab and foreign news agencies.

Replying to a question on the restoration of Arab solidarity, the president said: Actually, as you see, we automatically opposed the moves of capitulation the moment they appeared. It is natural for us to seek to rally our Arab nation to thwart these moves. We have indeed sought and exerted continuous and recurrent efforts. We will continue to exert these efforts. Despair will not seep into our souls. However, I would like to affirm that whether or not we succeed in rallying our Arab nation around this objective--the objective of thwarting the move of capitulation--we in Syria will remain steadfast in defiance of all attempts aimed at suppression and usurpation. No oppressive force will be able to make us deviate from this course.

As you have seen during your stay here, we enjoy the confidence of our Arab people. We have worked and will continue to work to strengthen the consciousness and cohesion of our masses in this country. This will be our principal tool in the battle for victory and the battle of defiance of the enemies of our Arab nation.

If I have anything to say on this occasion, I would like to affirm the rejection of despair and to stress that we will close all doors through which this despair can enter the souls of our Arab citizens. We in Syria are confident that the masses of our Arab nation everywhere support us in this stand because it is a stand for the sake of the Arab nation, Arab values and all Arab citizens.

In reply to a question on the situation in southern Lebanon, Israeli aggression in the south, and his opinion about the future of Lebanon, the president said: We have not been surprised in the past and we should also not be surprised if certain developments in the region appear from time to time in southern Lebanon or elsewhere. Such events should not be given more importance than they deserve; they should not preoccupy us more than is necessary. We should continue to effectively tackle such events and developments. This is what we are doing with the cooperation and total understanding of the legitimate authorities in Lebanon represented by President Ilyas Sarkis.

Replying to a request from a Lebanese reporter to address the Lebanese people on this happy occasion, the president said: I was also asked to do this in the polling station. I would like to extend greetings to our Lebanese brethren for numerous reasons, one of which is the fraternal sentiments which the Lebanese people are sharing on this occasion with the Syrian people.

Asked about the slogans for the next 7 years, namely, the second presidential term, the president replied: They are the same as the slogans for the past 7 years.

Replying to a question on Syrian-Egyptian relations, that is, how long these relations will remain as they are now, the president said: The matter is related to the tackling of our principal issue--the issue of liberation. We are not in accord on this subject and our understanding of how to tackle this problem is totally contradictory. Our relations are determined by identity or contradiction in tackling this issue.

Asked about the resolutions of the steadfastness and confrontation summit in Algiers, and whether they met his expectations, the president replied: At every general interstate meeting, including summit meetings, not all the wishes of all the participants are realized. However, I can say that what was achieved in Algiers constitutes a great deal of what we had desired. At every meeting, we expect to achieve new and beneficial things in the service of what we are working for. Such graduation and development is normal.

Replying to a question on Egyptian-Israeli relations and whether Egypt will sign a separate reconciliation [sulhan munfaridan] with Israel, the president said: Matters of such gravity should not be subjected to predictions. I do not want to discuss the anticipated results, although naturally I have a concept about these results. I talked about this with certain Arab brothers. However, I would like to reiterate what I have said previously, namely, that the course taken was a wrong one and was not in the interests of the Arab nation. What has been founded on error, must be wrong. A wrong seed does not yield right fruit.

Our position in Syria and in the steadfastness front--and I can say the position of the Arab nation--will not change. It will remain a position of steadfastness, pride and dignity. The negative results expected from the Egyptian-Israeli dialog will not affect the course of our march.

DAMASCUS REPORTS AL-ASAD WINS IN PRESIDENTIAL REFERENDUM

JN0911502 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 9 Feb 78 JN

[Text] Speaker of the People's Assembly in the Syrian Arab Republic Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi has announced the final official results of the popular referendum on the position of president held Wednesday, 8 February 1978. The People's Assembly statement said the following:

1. The number of electors whose names appear on electoral lists is 4,115,149.

2. The number of voters who actually participated in the referendum was 3,991,695, or 97 percent.

3. The number of voters who agreed to the nominee of the People's Assembly, President Hafiz al-Asad, as president of the republic for the second term of office is 3,975,729; that is, 99.60 percent of the voters.

4. The number of voters who disagreed is 4,798; that is, 0.012 percent of the voters.

5. The number of invalid ballots is 11,168.

People's Assembly speaker Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi this morning received this historic record, which included the results of the referendum held yesterday on the post of the president of the republic, from Interior Minister 'Adnan Dabbagh.

LEBANESE PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION ARRIVES IN DAMASCUS

JN081650Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1500 GMT 8 Feb 78 JN

[Excerpt] Damascus, 8 February--A delegation representing the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies arrived in Damascus at 1130 today to share the Syrian people's joy over the renewal of their pledge of allegiance to President Hafiz al-Asad. The delegation is made up of Michel Sasin, deputy speaker of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies; and another 50 members representing the various parliamentary blocs in the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies.

The delegation was received at the Syrian-Lebanese border by Muhammad 'Adil Jamus, deputy speaker of the People's Assembly; Dr Muhsin Bilal, chairman of the Arab and foreign relations committees; several People's Assembly members; the secretary general of the People's Assembly; and several high-ranking officials.

BA'TH OFFICIAL CONFERS WITH VISITING ELF LEADER

JN051557Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1340 GMT 5 Feb 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 5 February--Comrade Dr Fawwaz Sayyagh, member of the National Command of the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party and head of the Foreign Relations Office, received in his office today 'Abdallah Suleiman, Executive Committee member of the Eritrean Liberation Front and chairman of the front's Foreign Relations Office, in the presence of the director of the front's office in Damascus and the comrade director of the Foreign Relations Office in the National Command.

During the meeting, talks were held on the current situation in the Horn of Africa in general and the political as well as the military conditions of the Eritrean revolution, at the current stage in particular. Suleiman then expressed to Dr Sayyagh the Eritrean people's gratitude and appreciation for the support offered by the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party and the Syrian Government under the struggler Comrade Hafiz al-Asad to the Eritrean people in order to achieve freedom and complete independence.

Dr Sayyagh, in turn, stressed the importance of unity among the Eritrean revolution's ranks in a manner that will aid the realization of complete independence. He also reiterated the firm and principled stand of the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party and the Syrian Government toward providing the Eritrean revolution with all possible aid so that the Eritrean people can achieve the liberation of their country from the Ethiopian military forces as well as the establishment of their independent state on their soil.

ALGERIA

BOUMEDIENE CABLES MESSAGE OF SUPPORT TO ANGOLA

LD062131Y Algiers APS in French 1400 GMT Feb 78 LD

[Text] Algiers--President Houari Boumediene, president of the republic and chairman of the Council of the Revolution, has sent the following message to President Agostinho Neto of Angola:

"In the face of the new aggression and the increase of imperialist plots against Angola, in the name of the Algerian people, its party, the National Liberation Front and its government, I wish to assure you of our unswerving support and our commitment to remain by your side for the defense of the Angolan revolution and the safeguard of its achievements. I am convinced that the Angolan people will once again be able to foil these renewed provocations against its unity, its independence and the integrity of its territory, and thus pursue its victorious march on the road of progress and the building of a socialist society. The successes of Angola have not failed to give birth to an imperialist plot, whose current manifestations are expressed in the new aggressions perpetrated by the racist forces of South Africa and from other countries. I am convinced that such attempts, which in the past have resulted in a resounding failure--thanks to the vigilance and the revolutionary faith of the courageous Angolan people--will be doomed to the same end.

"The plot against free Africa, continues the message, has its ramifications in other regions of the continent where imperialism continually provokes points of tension, in whose interests it tries to destabilize progressive regimes in order to replace them with regimes in their service. The natural solidarity between our two revolutions and our two peoples is a powerful factor able to give adequate replies to attempts at reconquering by the colonialists.

"At the time when the brother people of Angola are celebrating the 17th anniversary of their armed struggle for national liberation, I take great pleasure, in the name of the Algerian people and government, in giving you my sincere congratulations and my wishes for success in the pursuit of the revolutionary work of the Angolan people, which, under the aegis of the MPLA Labor Party, has given a qualitative contribution to the liberation fights in Africa and opened promising prospects for the fight of other peoples of the continent, particularly those of southern Africa."

Abdelaziz Bouteflika, member of the Council of the Revolution and minister of foreign affairs, has sent a similar message to his Angolan counterpart, Paulo Teixeira Jorge.

VISITING PDRY LEADER DISCUSSES TRIPOLI CONFERENCE

LD090030Y Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 8 Feb 78 LD

[Excerpts] 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, general secretary of the Unified Political Organization--the National Front of the PDRY, today held a press conference. [passage indistinct]

Asked about the state of the North Africa region and the foreign military intervention against the Saharan people who are struggling for the liberation of their country from the invaders, 'Abd al-Fatah Isma'il replied: [begin recording]

[Isma'il] Arab reaction in the Arab Maghreb has designs like Arab reaction in the Mashriq and in the south of the Arabian Peninsula and the Arabian Gulf. The excellent and positive thing out of the Algiers conference is that it actually has been able to define, in addition to the reactionary forces in the Mashriq and in the south of the peninsula and the gulf, the reactionary forces in the Maghreb. We fully realize the reactionary role, the agent role, they play in the Arab Maghreb, and their major role in implementing the French imperialist plan against the fraternal Algerian people and their valiant revolution and also the role of intrigue commanded by the regime in Morocco against our Arab people in the Sahara. I believe that it was necessary, not only at the Algiers conference but a long time ago, to define this overall outlook and this overall confrontation of Arab reactionaries not only in the Mashriq but also in the Maghreb.

For we realize the regime of Hassan II and the role of intrigue of his [word indistinct] with the French imperialist plan against our Arab people in Algeria or against our people in the Sahara. We in Democratic Yemen have recognized the provisional government of the Saharan Republic. Thus we affirm our continued support for this struggle until complete victory is achieved, and secure self-determination of their land. [end recording]

LIBYA

JANA REPORTS AL-QADHDHAFI'S ADDRESS ON CONGRESS ELECTIONS

LD082122Y Tripoli JANA in English 1815 GMT 8 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, February 8, JANA--Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the First of September Revolution, last night announced that selections of the basic people's congress will begin throughout the country from Thursday.

In an address on radio and television Colonel al-Qadhdhafi announced that the leadership committees of the people's congresses were also being upgraded.

He said the selection process will be supervised by the revolutionary committees since these committees were not official or government as official departments do not exist in the Jamahiriyah at all as a result of the people's power introduced in the country, he said.

He said that it was the people who had formed the people's congresses hence it would be the people who would select their leaderships. People, he added, had set up the people's administrative committees responsible before the people's congresses and had selected the revolutionary committees. Col. al-Qadhdhafi remarked on the results of the experiment in the past period by saying that it was based on principles of no democracy without people's congresses, committees all over the country, no representation on behalf of the people and representation is a farce. [sentence as received]

All these, he said, is irrevocable and basic, within the framework sovereignty of the people, represented by the people's conferences, the people's committees, and trade unions (syndicates).

He added we can modify our experiment until it reaches near perfection so that the whole world might take it as a model and follow it.

Col. al-Qadhdhafi stressed that Libyan men and women were equal in their political and by human rights, and that natural differences between the two sexes should not affect their equality in political, human and social rights such as education. There is no difference between teachers, students and employees of both sexes.

Col. al-Qadhdhafi said women should participate in the leadership of the People's Congress. He said that the selection process should be well organised and elucidated to reach every single person in the country. He said the more the localities the more people will come in the leadership. [as received]

Col. al-Qadhdhafi called on the people not to be fanatical about their areas and not to advocate such fanaticism. Whoever does so does not belong to the people's will and is out to destroy people's sovereignty, he added.

He said each individual should respect himself. We are a people who have established the sovereignty of the people and each one of you knows that he is a member of a certain peoples congress and should not join another congress.

The revolutionary committees leaderships should be firm to avoid any tempering with the sovereignty of the people by those who are still influenced by the hateful remnants of the past.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi spoke about another import change which has been brought about. He said the leadership of the municipal people's congressess will now consist of the secretaries of the basic people's congresses.

Moreover, the secretary and assistant secretary of the municipal congress will be chosen from amongst its members but the leadership committee of the municipal congress will consist of the secretaries of the basic people's congresses.

Those who will be chosen for the leadership of the basic people's congresses should understand from now on that there should be no ill feelings among them about the revolutionary committees. "And anyone who takes this attitude is not with us, he is sick and suffers from defects and should improve himself."

Only then, he said, could he join us next year or in ten years time. Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said the revolutionary committees emanate from the people and were chosen by the masses and they are the pillars of the revolution. They have prepared themselves to defend the revolution and their declarations defend, propagate and protect the First of September Revolution.

He said these revolutionary committees will be the one to carry arms against any coup d'etat or foreign aggressions. They are the first to carry arms and to die.

He said member of the People's Congress and other leaderships are as patriotic as revolutionary committees but the latter have now announced their readiness to die, to defend and to propagate the revolution.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said there is no reason why there should be any ill feelings towards the revolutionary committees as they will only help the people's committees and congresses and their leaderships in carrying out their duties. These committees will not dissolve or cancel or replace the people's congresses. Nor will they expel or reprimand any member.

The revolutionary committees members are people endeavouring to guide the people's congresses, people's committees and their leaderships. They are a helping factor. Their job is a popular job and they supervise the current choice of the leaderships of the people's congresses.

He went on to say, thank God our people are capable. They form congresses, committees and judge them, they select revolutionary committees to supervise this work. These committees being a people's organ mean that the people themselves are supervising and setting up people's congresses, committees and leaderships. And whatever they do they do it in a great way.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi stressed that the country was entering the era of the masses and was confirming the sovereignty of the people day after day, despite some mistakes made by the people in some areas as a result of ignorance but which nevertheless could have harmed the people's sovereignty.

He said we should not give the sceptics the opportunity to think that we are not capable of establishing our power and controlling it and that we need someone to rule us.

He said we overcame this state of subordination and foreign rule as well as the rule of the pasha, commander, the rector [as received] etc., etc. We now rule ourselves by ourselves and power belongs to all of us.

Even the leadership committee of the congress cannot act on its own. It only informs you of the venue of meetings, agenda, keeps records and is an administrative body.

He said all the Libyan people are now divided into people's congresses which have the power to say 'yes' or 'no' and to draw up the agenda for the future and to make decisions on issues.

These leaderships, chosen by the people, will stand responsible before the people's congresses and will meet with the people's committees which carry out different projects monthly.

He said the people have formed these committees and no one can select the leadership on behalf of the people but each one choses leaderships of the people's congresses suitable to the congress. At present, he added, there are no conditions as the people already know the conditions under which people should be selected for the leadership.

He said there are people who think that these leaderships could serve the interest of certain individuals. This belief is wrong. There are some who believe that by choosing [words indistinct] the saying: The house belongs to the one who lives in it. This saying is a part of the socialism adopted by the people and exists in the declaration of the people's power.

He said the people have decided that socialism should be applied, which means partnership and not wages for workers, and the house for the one who lives in it. These principles form part of implementation of socialism which nobody could deny.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi explained that any objection to application of socialism will be an action against the revolution and as long as it exists it will continue to carry out its programme with which the revolution and the people's power were brought about.

Any objection to these things is a destruction of the revolution, the people's power and everything we have built.

"We never destroy our own houses, and we mean by houses politics, power, revolution and transformation."

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi explained that those who think they are harmed by these sayings are wrong. Everyone who lives in a house possesses a sacred ownership which nobody could take away from him. No Libyan is a slave to another Libyan as slavery has ended with the revolution.

Referring to the role of the police in the selection process Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said it has nothing to do with it and should any two persons quarrel it would be undemocratic and should be investigated.

He explained that the General Secretariat of the General People's Congress is the last resort to consult and that the revolutionary committees will supervise locally and there are no doubts about these committees. They are clean and honest are keen to establish the people's power and want a peaceful democratic selection without any tribalism, fanaticism and narrowmindedness.

The duty of these revolutionary committees is to guide the people in selecting and explaining to the masses who deserves selection and who has been selected on tribal basis or those who are backed by sick people.

These committees, he said, are a security lock and at the same time they will act as sieves. They do not have power to make decisions but the absolute power of revolutionary supervision.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON SUDANESE VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT

Meets With Jallud, At-Turayki

LD072250Y Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 1915 GMT 7 Feb 78 LD

[Text] The Arab Libyan and Sudanese sides this evening held a meeting at the headquarters of the General Secretariat of the General People's Congress at the People's Palace in Tripoli. The Arab Libyan side was headed by Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud while the Sudanese side was headed by Abu al-Qasim Muhammad Ibrahim, first vice president of Sudan and general secretary of the Sudanese Socialist Union.

Dr 'Ali at-Turayki, foreign secretary, Muhammad az-Zuwayy, secretary for information and culture, the assistant secretary for political affairs at the Foreign Secretariat and the director of the Arab administration at the Foreign Secretariat took part in the meeting on the Libyan side, and on the Sudanese side Staff Maj Gen 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyid, member of the General Command of the popular armed forces, Dr Francis Deng, minister of state at the Foreign Ministry, Sudan's ambassador to Tunisia and Dr 'Umar (ad-Day) took part.

Joint Communique Issued

LD081954Y Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 8 Feb 78 LD

[Text] A joint communique has been issued today on the visit of Abu al-Qasim Muhammad Ibrahim, first vice president of the Sudan Republic and secretary general of the Sudan Socialist Union [SSU], to the Jamahiriyah. The statement was signed by Maj 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud for Libya and Abu al-Qasim Muhammad Ibrahim for the Sudan. Here is the text:

Out of faith in the historical ties of destiny between the two fraternal peoples in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the Democratic Republic of Sudan, our of loyalty to the principles of the revolutions of 1 September and May, to realize the aims of the two fraternal peoples for freedom, socialism and unity, and out of their resolve to play a positive and effective role in bringing about the triumph of the issues of the Arab nation and peoples of Africa, a delegation from the Democratic Republic of Sudan, led by Abu al-Qasim Muhammad Ibrahim, first vice president and SSU secretary general, paid a visit to the Jamahiriyah from 6 to 8 February 1978. There it held talks with leaders of the Jamahiriyah on issues of interest to the two fraternal peoples.

The delegation of the Democratic Republic of Sudan included, as well as the first vice president; Maj Gen 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib of the General Command of the people's armed forces; Dr Francis Deng, minister of state at the Foreign Ministry; Abu Bakr 'Uthman Muhammad Salih, ambassador at the Foreign Ministry; and Ja'far Abu al-Hajj, Sudanese ambassador to Tunisia.

The delegation of the Jamahiriyah was led by Maj 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, member of the General Secretariat of the General People's Congress and consisted of Dr Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turaki, foreign secretary; Muhammad Abu al-Qasim al-Zuwayy, secretary for information and culture; Muhammad Husni Sha'ban, assistant under secretary for political affairs in the Foreign Secretariat; Muhammad Abdullah al-Hudayri, director of the Arab Affairs Department in the Foreign Secretariat; Muhammad at-Tahir Siyalah, director of the Cooperation Department in the Foreign Secretariat; Ashur 'Abd al-Majid al-Firtas, head of the Political Affairs Office in the Arab Affairs Department; and Yussuf Sasi, head of the office of cooperation with Arab countries.

The viewpoints of the two sides were identical on the following points:

1. Bilateral relations: The two sides examined the circumstances which affected the course of relations between the two countries during the recent period. They agreed that they were transient circumstances and took the necessary measures to develop relations between them and to strengthen them to realize the aims of the two fraternal peoples. In this respect, the two sides agreed on the following:

A. To pursue a joint policy based on the principles of Arabism, Islam, African fraternity, socialism, unity, the liberation of Palestine, combatting colonialism and racism and rejection of the policy of subservience and agency in the Arab region and Africa;

B. The Sudanese side stressed that the joint defense agreement between Egypt and Sudan was a defensive one and not directed against the Jamahiriyah or any other Arab people. In this connection the two sides stress their commitment not to carry out any hostile act or to enter into agreements or pacts against each other which are liable to harm the two fraternal peoples;

C. To reopen the embassies of the two countries in Tripoli and Khartoum and to take the necessary administrative measures as soon as possible;

D. To achieve the resumption of the Arab Libyan and the Sudanese airlines of their services between the two fraternal countries.

2. The pan-Arab sphere: After reviewing the deteriorating situation in the Arab region, the two sides agreed on the need for the Arab nation to pursue a clear political and struggle course which enables it to unify its ranks and mobilize its energies in order to back the cause of Arab solidarity, being the basic and sure guarantee for total liberation.

3. The two sides blessed the reconciliation efforts between the Chad Government and Chad rebels in accordance with a political program in which the two sides take part in a manner which can achieve the freedom, stability and progress of the fraternal Chad people. The consider that foreign interference in Chadian affairs is liable to complicate matters and impede the reconciliation efforts. For this reason they reject any foreign interference in Chad from whatever source.

4. Horn of Africa: The two sides express their concern at events in the Horn of Africa. In this connection they stress their respect for and adherence to the principles and OAU Charter and the need to solve the problems of that region through a dialog and within a purely African framework without any foreign interference.

The two sides agreed to continue to make efforts to find a peaceful solution to the problem of the Eritrean people. The Arab Libyan side expressed its support for the initiative of President Numayri in this respect.

5. The African liberation movement: The two sides reviewed the situation in the African Continent and underlined the importance of the unity and solidarity of the states of the continent and the strengthening of the OAU to enable it to solve the problems of the continent without any external interference. They also stressed their resolve to continue to give full support to the African liberation movements in the southern part of the continent until the racist regimes have been eliminated and the freedom and progress of its peoples have been achieved.

6. Nonalinement: The two sides agreed on the importance of the nonalined movement and the need to strengthen it so as to be able to serve the interests of the peoples of the Third World and the question of justice and right in the world.

In conclusion, the two sides stressed the need to continue the dialog and coordination between the two countries in the interest of common questions.

Abu al-Qasim Muhammad Ibrahim, first vice president and secretary general of the SSU, invited his brother, Maj 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud, member of the General Secretariat of the General People's Congress, to visit the Democratic Republic of the Sudan. Jallud accepted the invitation and the date will be fixed later.

Ibrahim Departs

LD082218Y Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 8 Feb 78 LD

[Summary] "Brother Abu al-Qasim Muhammad Ibrahim, first vice president of the Republic of Sudan and secretary general of the Sudanese Socialist Union, left Tripoli this afternoon for home at the end of a 3-day visit to the Jamahiriyah." He was seen off at Tripoli International Airport by brother Maj 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud and others.

Abu al-Qasim, in a statement to a JANA correspondent, praised the great achievements of the Jamahiriyah in various fields. He described his talks with officials in the Jamahiriyah as very good and successful in once again contributing to the establishment of strong relations between the two fraternal peoples."

MOROCCO

KING RECEIVES NEW, OUTGOING AMBASSADORS

LD0812547Y Rabat MAP in Arabic 0800 GMT 8 Feb 78 LD

[Text] His Majesty King Hassan II yesterday received the letters of credence of seven new ambassadors to Morocco. They are: Dr Hans Scharf, ambassador of the GDR; Mr Uday Chand Soni, ambassador of India; Mr Branika Bvido, ambassador of Yugoslavia; Mr Joshua Simasiku Siyolwe, ambassador of Zambia, with residence in Cairo; Mr Muhammad Adnan az-Zair, ambassador of Syria; Mr Kean Herly, ambassador of France; and Mr Soloman Bakota, ambassador of Cameroon, with residence in Paris.

His majesty welcomed the new ambassadors. He underlined the relations linking Morocco with their respective countries and the personal ties between the king and their respective heads of state. The king said that Morocco is looking forward to strengthening its links with world countries. His majesty also stressed his full readiness to facilitate the task of the new ambassadors and to enable them to perform their missions in the best conditions.

Afterwards, the king received Mr Osamu Kataoka, outgoing ambassador of Japan, and Mr Hans Schwartzmann, ambassador of the FRG. Both were on a farewell visit to his majesty on the occasion of the end of their missions in Morocco.

The king wished the outgoing Japanese ambassador success in his new duties. He also thanked the outgoing ambassador of the FRG who has retired for his services while in Morocco. He told him that Morocco's doors will always be open to him at any time. The two ambassadors thanked the king and wished Morocco progress and prosperity.

Finally, his majesty received Gen Abdesslem Sifrioui and handed him his credentials as new Moroccan ambassador to the Netherlands; Mr Abdelhedi Sbihi, new ambassador to Kuwaiti; Mr Boubaker Boumehdi, new ambassador to Romania; and Mr Mohamed Bisbis, new ambassador to Mauritania.

Addressing the new ambassadors to fraternal and friendly states, his majesty said: It gives me pleasure to see Gen Abdesslem Sifrioui among you, whom we have appointed ambassador to the Queen of Holland. We want to see this officer experience a new field of action in view of his dynamism and honesty. We are convinced, the king said, that he will be our best ambassador to the queen and people of Holland, and to the Moroccan colony in that country; and that he will adequately perform his duties.

Addressing Mr Abdelhedi Sbihi, the king said that Mr Sbihi is not alien to diplomacy in which he has worked for a long time. Today, the king said, he is appointed to a fraternal country which we love and which loves us, namely, Kuwait. Kuwait, the king said, although a small country occupies a significant place in the field of politics; economy and strategy.

After underlining the fraternal links between him and the amir of Kuwait, the king expressed his conviction that the new ambassador will succeed in his new duties.

Addressing the new ambassador to Romania, Mr Boubaker Boumehdi, his majesty lauded the good relations between Morocco and Romania and the relationship between his majesty and the Romanian president, based on cordiality and friendship. In fact, the Romanian president is known for his perspicacity and wisdom not only toward international issues, but also regarding the problems of the Third World. The king said that Romania is an important country with great potential. It has always showed readiness to have rapprochement with Morocco. In this connection, his majesty urged the new ambassador to do all he can to consolidate the ties of friendship between the two countries.

Addressing Mr Mohamed Bisbis, new Moroccan ambassador to Mauritania, the king said that this is the first time Mr Bisbis is appointed as ambassador, even though he has worked for the Foreign Ministry. The king told him: We have chosen you to represent us to a neighboring country and to a friendly people with which we are now linked by strong relations, following our decision to make good the period when we used to ignore each other. Thank God, we have now reached the stage of ideal relations between Morocco and Mauritania. The king said: Morocco needs a king of representation that reflects the reality of its intention toward Mauritania--to establish relations of loyalty and faithfulness to commitments and noninterference in internal affairs, the king told the new ambassador: We have political and military commitments to this country and you must realize this. I am convinced that you will be the best ambassador of Morocco and its people to President Moktar Ould Daddah of Mauritania and his people.

Afterwards the king decorated the new ambassador with the Medal of the Throne, Class Chevalier. The new ambassador then took the legal oath.

The audiences were attended by Mr M'hamed Boucetta, minister of state in charge of foreign affairs and cooperation; Mr Mohamed Larbi Khattabi, minister of information; Gen Moulay Hafidh Alaoui, minister of the royal palaces, protocols and medals; and by Mr Ahmed Bensouda, adviser to the king.

FOREIGN MINISTRY DENIES MERCENARIES IN RHODESIA

TA081512Y Paris AFP in English 1446 GMT 8 Feb 78 TA

[Text] Jerusalem, Feb. 8 (AFP)--The Israeli Foreign Ministry today dismissed claims by Rhodesian nationalist leader Joshua Nkomo that 600 Israeli mercenaries were in Rhodesia.

Mr Nkomo told a press conference in Lusaka on Monday that the Rhodesian Army had recruited an estimated 11,200 white mercenaries, mainly from South Africa, the U.S., Britain and France. The force, including 600 Israelis, was concentrated near the borders with Zambia and Mozambique, he said.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman here said the claim was "nonsense."

KNESSET DISCUSSES ARMS SUPPLIES TO ARAB COUNTRIES

TA081721Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 8 Feb 78 TA

[Text] The Knesset this afternoon discussed two motions for the agenda on the subject of arms supplies to Arab countries. Alinement Knesset member Moshe Shahal mentioned in his motion the sale of U.S. aircraft to Egypt, which is tantamount to pressure on Israel and which is accompanied by disturbing signs on the degree of support from U.S. public opinion. Among other things, MK Shahal attacked the foreign minister's public statements on the sale of Israeli weapons to Ethiopia and statements by the finance minister on Israel's commercial relations with South Africa. These statements, MK Shahal said, contribute to an erosion in the U.S. public support for Israel.

In the second motion Knesset member Zalman Shoval spoke of the supply of sophisticated weapons to Syria by Germany and France. MK Shoval said that France traditionally fulfills a negative role in the Middle East conflict. As for Germany, however, the arms deals constitute a negative change in its position toward Israel.

Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Zippori replied to the two motions. To MK Shahal's motion, he answered that Israel is acting to prevent arms deals between the United States and Egypt, and for this we are enlisting our friends in the United States. At the same time, he added, the chief contribution to the arms race in the region comes from the Soviet bloc rather than from the United States.

To the motion of MK Shoval, he said that Israel views with much gravity the supply of military equipment from France and Germany to Syria, a supply which has negative political and military implications.

The two motions were referred to the Knesset Committee for Security and Foreign Affairs.

DAYAN DENIES ACCUSATIONS REGARDING SETTLEMENTS

TA082000Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 8 Feb 78 TA

[Text] Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan denied in New York today accusations published in the United States on the subject of the establishment of settlements. He said that the Government of Israel has honored all its pledges to the U.S. administration on this issue. All we promised was that during 1 year no new settlements would be established, except within IDF camps, Dayan said.

TV QUOTES VANCE REMARKS ON ILLEGAL W. BANK SETTLEMENTS

TA082000Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 8 Feb 78 TA

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance said today that rural settlements in the West Bank are illegal and constitute an obstacle to peace between Israel and Egypt. Vance made his statement when testifying before a subcommittee of the House International Relations Committee.

PRESS ASSESSES RESULTS OF AS-SADAT VISIT TO U.S.

TA090853Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 9 Feb 78 TA

[From review of morning press editorials]

[Excerpt] In the view of HAZOFE, the signs are increasing that President Carter's administration is opening a campaign of pressure on Israel with the aim of pushing it into concessions. This is despite the calming announcements in Washington according to which the U.S. President advised the Egyptian president to conduct direct negotiations with Israel and not rely on U.S. pressure on it. The paper suggests a large-scale Israeli propaganda campaign in the United States against the U.S. pressure campaign in order to expose the concealed aims.

DAVAR writes that President as-Sadat has succeeded, in his meetings with Congress members and molders of public opinion, in adding to his status as a responsible, pro-Western leader. This can also help him in the expected campaign to get authorization for the weapons the administration is going to give him. This is a new stage in U.S.-Egypt relations, and it comes at a time when the United States is due to complete a wide-reaching and significant deal with Saudi Arabia. In the current climate in Washington, which is also combined with the increasing anger of the administration and the public against Israel because of the settlements, it will not be easy for Israel's friends to contain this process.

'AL HAMISHMAR thinks that because of President as-Sadat's visit to the United States, increased diplomatic activity will begin in the Middle East for a renewal of the negotiations. Our cabinet's grave mistakes, particularly on the issue of the settlements, have created a situation advantageous to Egypt. The United States will now increase pressure on Israel for more flexibility. The paper writes that it might have been possible to prevent this had it not been for shameful affairs such as that of the settlement in Shilo and other similar cases.

HAMODI'A says that it is essential to strengthen Israel's publicity campaign immediately. It must be explained that pressure will not help at all to advance free and honest negotiations between Israel and Egypt. Pressure will only make hands clench and move the area further from peace.

SHE'ARIM calls on the leaders of the Jews in the United States to explain to President Carter that it is now the time to ask for concessions from President As-Sadat. President Carter does not have to ask President as-Sadat for anything bearing the suspicion of a blow at Egypt's security or existence.

Afternoon Editorials

TA090938Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 9 Feb 78 TA

[From review of afternoon press editorials]

[Text] Both papers devote their editorials to President as-Sadat's visit to Washington.

MA'ARIV thinks that, although the Egyptian president did not gain all the targets he had set himself on this visit, he had fairly considerable achievements. Among other things, the administration will act to convince the Jewish leaders and Israel's friends in Congress that Israel must increase its flexibility. Washington also thinks at the moment that it must respond to As-Sadat's request to supply him with U.S. planes.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT reacts to the Egyptian president's claim that the planes are necessary for him because of the Soviets' infiltration of East Africa. The paper thinks that this is throwing sand in the Americans' eyes. The arms are not required by As-Sadat for anything other than moves against Israel.

PRIME MINISTER BEGIN ARRIVES IN SWITZERLAND

For reportage on Prime Minister Begin's 2-day visit to Switzerland, including his Geneva press conference remarks urging the United States not to supply arms to Egypt, see the Switzerland section of the 9 February Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

RAMALLAH COUNCIL MEMBER JANHU ASSASSINATED

TAC90618Y Jerusalem POST in English 9 Feb 78 p 1 TA

[Excerpts] Ramallah--'Abd an-Nur Khalil Janhu, one of the West Bank's most controversial figures, was assassinated here yesterday evening by an unknown assailant. He was shot dead outside his business headquarters in the centre of the town--not far from his lavish villa.

Security forces immediately launched an extensive investigation, but there were no arrests reported by late last night.

Janhu, 54, was known to be one of the West Bank's wealthiest notables who pulled strings behind the scenes in several political activities in the past three decades.

The Palestine Liberation Organization yesterday claimed responsibility for the killing, denouncing Janhu as an "agent collaborating with the Zionist authorities."

"The people's will was carried out today on the agent Janhu in Ramallah. He was one of the collaborators with the Zionist occupation authorities," said an official statement distributed by the PLO news agency in Beirut.

Janhu was acquitted by a military court last year of shooting dead a local resident, Khalil Musa Liftawi, a member of a clan with large influence in the area. The judge ruled that Janhu killed Liftawi in self-defense.

Having begun his political career as a "nationalist," Janhu took part in the 1940s in several anti-Jewish operations, including the February 1, 1948, bombing of the then "Palestine POST" building in Jerusalem. In fact he admitted several years later to "the Jerusalem POST" staff that he was the one who drove the explosive truck to the building.

In the 1950s, he concentrated on business while promoting ties with the Jordanian Royal Court, especially with Sharif Nasir ibn Jamil, King Husayn's uncle.

Since the 1967 six-day war, Janhu had become acquainted with some of Israel's top politicians, military men, businessmen and scientists. He devoted his time in the past two decades to politics and business, becoming a staunch advocate of Israeli-Palestinian coexistence and gaining control of agencies representing local and foreign commercial firms. He reportedly extended his dealings to several U.S. cities.

He often drove expensive American cars and he dressed like a fashion plate, but always with a gun in his hip pocket.

Janhu was shot down just a few hours after he had complained to Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman that the town was unsafe. (Weizman toured Ramallah yesterday and conferred with the city's elders on the town's development.)

ANTISETTLEMENT DEMONSTRATIONS CONTINUE IN WEST BANK

TA081659Y Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 8 Feb 78 TA

[From the Evening Newsreel]

[Text] Our correspondent Shelomo Raz reports on today's events in Judaea and Samaria: [begin recording]

In the early hours of this morning, school students took to the streets of Nabulus and began throwing stones while brandishing Palestine flags and shouting slogans against Jewish settlements. Some of the rioters even barricaded themselves in the headmaster's room of one of the schools in the city and hurled stones into the street.

At about noon, after a few hours of calm, groups of demonstrators congregating in the area of the city's clock square again began to riot and disrupt civil order.

The demonstrations expanded also to Janin. In that town the center of rioting was in the high school for girls. In the morning the girls left the classrooms and began congregating in the schoolyard. At about 1000 the girls left the school building, took to the streets and shouted slogans denouncing the state. Because of the riots, the school was closed and all the students were sent home.

No communique has been issued about casualties, and neither is it known whether arrests have been made. [end recording]

MINISTER SHARON INTERVIEWED ON SETTLEMENT POLICY

TA082130Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1935 GMT 8 Feb 78 TA

[Agriculture Minister Ari'el Sharon interview on Moqed program by Ya'aqov Ahime'ir, Elimelekh Ram and Yiga'el Goren--live]

[Excerpts] [Question] Mr Sharon, does the government have a policy on the establishment of settlements and, if so, what is that plan?

[Answer] The government does have a policy on the establishment of settlements in all parts of the country, in Galilee, in the Negev, in the 'Arava, as well as in the Golan Heights and, of course, also the plan that is being carried out in Judaea and Samaria.

[Question] What is that plan, Mr Sharon?

[Answer] The plan is a plan of establishing settlements, both agricultural and urban settlements, which are meant to enable a proper distribution of Israel's population. The problem is not only how Israel looks today; one also has to look forward and see how Israel will look in 20 or 30 years.

[Question] Could you give details [words indistinct]?

[Answer] I think the plans are known. We are talking of populating Galilee. Only this week we agreed on the establishment of four more moshavim for members of the second generation there. We have a plan that is being carried out in Judaea and Samaria, and the government decided more than a month ago on the establishment of three more settlements, according to the earlier model, within military camps. The first of them, as you know, broke ground recently at Hares. Two more settlements are to be established. I would say there are settlements in the process of construction.

[Question] What is planned for the future, beyond the three settlements that are already being established?

[Answer] The matter will definitely be raised at a cabinet session and it will be accomplished. The Government of Israel has no intention not to continue the settlements project. The settlements project did not start today; it has been going on for a hundred years; it is an inseparable part of our life. This may appear to be the language of Zionism. I would say it is perhaps the central component of our political security concept, and this action will continue. It has been continuing relentlessly all these years.

[Question] Mr Sharon, when you say, "it will be brought to the cabinet session," that is to say, the plan for the continuation of the settlements, can one understand from this that some kind of improvisation is involved here?

[Answer] Not at all. As a rule, every settlement to be established is brought, as a first step, for discussion in the preparatory committee. There is a preparatory committee, of which I am the chairman, a committee composed mainly of the director generals of the relevant government ministries. Later the issue is brought before the joint committee of the Zionist Organization and the government, known as the Ministerial Committee for Settlement Affairs. If what is in question are sensitive areas, the issue is ultimately brought before the cabinet for approval. There is no settlement operation that is not brought up for cabinet approval.

[Question] Sir, do you believe that the current cabinet has made the issue of establishing settlements in Judaea and Samaria a national goal?

[Answer] I think that the present cabinet, in which I have served for about 7 months, has done a great deal. We had never witnessed the establishment of Jewish settlements in Samaria. The government is continuing the settlement plans of the former government. Settlement plans did not begin on the day when this cabinet was established, and they are not being blocked now. I said this is a process that has been going on for some hundred years now.

[Question] Why, then, did you say at a meeting of the Herut movement center that this government is not a government that promotes the establishment of settlements?

[Answer] On the whole, I think, it can be said that in the course of the last 6 or 7 months things have been done by this cabinet that had not been done in many years. The cabinet is acting under pressure. I'm convinced it is not the Israeli Government's ideal to settle Jews in military camps. There are political pressures, however, which have to be taken into consideration. On the one hand, the act of establishing settlements cannot be stopped; on the other, it has to be done in such a way that it can be continued.

[Question] Are you retracting your statement that this cabinet is not a cabinet that promotes the establishment of settlements?

[Answer] I did not retract the statement. I'd say, in all that concerns the establishment of those footholds [ma'ahazim] and settlements [hityashvuyot], I think the cabinet has done a great deal and in places where the former cabinets were unable to conceive of Jewish settlements. In that respect, this cabinet has undoubtedly done a very great deal. Has this become a central national objective? I'd definitely say this thing has not yet become a central national objective. Do these settlements receive full precedence in the various government ministries? I wouldn't say that they already received full priority.

And here I have to emphasize: Rarely have we witnessed such a great wave of settlers who are ready to go forth even before houses are built, before means of livelihood are established, and who are ready to take their personal effects and go sit on the rocks in tents and weather storms as did happen. I think one must take extreme care that this wave does not pass and disappear. This is an asset which, I'd say, every country should be proud of.

[Question] Mr Sharon, would you say that you have allies in the cabinet for what can be termed your settlement ambition?

[Answer] First of all, I'd like to say that everything that has been done and is being done is in accordance with cabinet decisions. The establishment of settlements is not a private undertaking of this or that cabinet member, even if at times there are attempts to describe it thus. [words indistinct]

[Question] Do you enjoy massive support in the cabinet?

[Answer] I must say, on the whole I am not a person who, in order to do things he believes in, seeks massive support. I'm not afraid of being alone.

[Question] Is it likely that your present isolation in the cabinet, about which you hinted quite clearly, will interfere with your plans for settlements over the whole of the country?

[Answer] As I said previously, nothing is being done which has not been agreed to by the cabinet. What does this "isolation" mean? Everything is being done in accordance with cabinet decision, that is, in the final analysis, the cabinet made the decisions. Are the three latest settlements in Samaria not a cabinet decision?

[Question] But it is very possible that there are ministers in the cabinet whose indifference, if you are isolated on this issue, will interfere with your carrying out these programs. It is clear that cabinet decisions have been made, but there are also cabinet decisions which have not been put into operation.

[Answer] We are living in a democratic country and in the cabinet, too, every minister has the opportunity to get up, explain, convince. If my position is accepted, then, from that moment, it becomes the position of the cabinet, like the position of any other minister which is accepted. This is something I certainly accept. I cannot, under any circumstances, complain that the cabinet did not take decisions on the issue of settlement. The cabinet, in my opinion, took decisions under the current political circumstances on this issue, far-reaching decisions.

[Question] Mr Sharon, nevertheless, when you, with the authorization of the cabinet, according to you, sent bulldozers to the Yamit strip, afterward you complained that they had spilled your blood--that same cabinet which, in fact, took decisions which you support, which you are preaching.

[Answer] It is not I who sends the bulldozers; the cabinet of Israel is sending the bulldozers. I, by virtue of my job, carry out the cabinet's decisions. That is my field.

[Question] Mr Minister, do you not think that the work of bulldozers in the Yamit strip contradicts the negotiations or the interests of the current processes in the Middle East?

[Answer] Quite definitely not. Israel presented the Egyptians in Ismailia with a peace program. The Israeli peace program was a complete program. The peace program spoke specifically about the fact that Israel would retreat or would withdraw its military forces up to the international border. Israel also spoke in the program about dates, comparatively short ones, for leaving its forces until the retreat to the international border. But in this program, there was a component which was inseparable from the program. This component was leaving the Jewish settlements.

[Question] Under Egyptian sovereignty.

[Answer] Under Egyptian sovereignty and while looking for a way to permit the settlements to exist. I cannot conceive of Israel's being able to propose such a peace program, a daring and far-reaching program, a program which I support fully, without the component of settlements which are to remain on site, and it is specifically stated that, east of the Al-Arish-Ras Muhammad line, and including Al-Arish, the Jewish settlements will remain where they are.

It is also essential to point out something else: Settlement in the Rafah salient did not begin on the day of the establishment of the present cabinet and it did not cease when As-Sadat arrived in Israel. This is an extended activity. It is a pity that, in the previous years, more was not done. It may be that we would then have taken a series of steps which it is vital to take today. And, as I said, settlement is a vital component in our program.

Now, something else should also be remembered: I do not believe that it would be possible to arrive at an agreement with the Egyptians--and today I do believe that it is possible to reach an agreement with the Egyptians; I believe that we will have an agreement with the Egyptians, not just arrive at an agreement--and I do not believe that it would have been possible to begin speaking with the Egyptians had we not said with certainty, in a definite way, that we do not intend to make changes in the international border.

Taken as a whole, the peace initiative is not As-Sadat's initiative. It did not begin with As-Sadat's November visit to Israel. This is an extended activity which began the day of the foundation of the cabinet, when the prime minister devoted efforts, maybe more than any other previous prime minister, although previous prime ministers also acted in this sphere, in order to begin speaking. Among the basic assumptions which were before us, it was clear that changes in the international border could not be mentioned. I would say that the maintenance of military forces for very long periods of time--as we thought in the past, let us say, for periods of dozens of years--would be impossible in the current circumstances. Therefore, Israel suggested a complete program, as it is. Now, what we are discussing today is not an Egyptian peace program; we are discussing an Israeli peace program.

[Question] Mr Minister, you voted in favor of the peace program, part of which is Jewish settlements in the Yamit strip under Egyptian sovereignty. Would you leave your farm or rehovot in order to live in one of those settlements under Egyptian sovereignty?

[Answer] The question is not a personal one, whether I would leave or not. We are not discussing a personal matter. I feel that...

[Question] Mr Sharon, I think that it certainly is a personal matter, because there is a demand, by the cabinet, that people settling beyond the green line live under Egyptian sovereignty. It appears to me that you are one of the fathers of the saying: after me. This is certainly a personal matter.

[Answer] We have never seen the Rafah salient as an economic issue. I have never seen the Rafah salient as a problem of vegetables for export. When we established the first settlements in the Rafah salient 7 or 8 years ago, we never thought there would be an agricultural solution. The aim was, at the time, to create a buffer between the Gaza Strip, where there are today 375,000 people, and the Sinai territory. At the time, in 1970-1971, isolating the Gaza Strip from the supply of arms, mines, ammunition and so on to the terrorists in the strip was a vital component.

And if we are talking today about the settlement there as a security component--and we also called, for that objective, 7 or 8 years ago, on people to settle in the Rafah salient and so today I have the moral validity to come and call on them--I would say that this is, in fact, the strip. As for your question of whether these are civilian settlements, certainly.

[Question] Civilian settlements, Mr Minister, which you will evacuate as soon as war breaks out.

[Answer] I heard you, I heard the complaint. How will civilian settlements stand up against Egyptian armies and divisions? The role of these people is to guarantee the possibility of peace. I would define them as a sort of support tool or support instrument for keeping peace before war. When war comes, they will not have to act. The State of Israel, thank the Lord, has the IDF. It has a significant force which is capable of fighting.

To this, the question will doubtless be asked: For what purpose do we need settlements? And here I want, I must explain this point: As-Sadat says Israel is sticking to outmoded ideas about security. So first, with all due respect for As-Sadat--I certainly regard him and his bravery with respect--I would suggest that he leave Israel's security problems to us. We will solve the security problems.

In the proposal we are discussing, we divided Sinai into three parts. One part is as far as the passes, where there is the Egyptian Army. The second strip is between the line of the passes and the Al-Arish-Ras Muhammad line, where there will be an Egyptian demilitarized zone. And the third strip is in northern Sinai, where Jewish settlements exist. And there is a difference between a demilitarized zone in which Jewish settlements exist and a demilitarized zone where there are no Jewish settlements. In a demilitarized zone where there are no Jewish settlements, the other side can do whatever it wants and Israel will always face a dilemma. We have a great deal of experience. In 1970 the Egyptians brought the missiles closer after the cease-fire. Israel then found itself faced with a terrible dilemma. We then knew that those missiles could have a greater effect than any other factor and we know their effect from the Yom Kippur war. And Israel then hesitated and did not act. Why did it not act? Because it was very hard to take a decision, to take this nation into war after the war of attrition it had been through.

[Question] Mr Minister, you speak about the importance of the settlements in the Rafah salient and about their fleshing out while, in fact, no real activities for adding settlers in these settlements have been carried out. As opposed to this, activities have been carried out to establish several footholds some 40 km from these settlements, which are today called experimental stations. What is the logic in this action?

[Answer] Settlement, I would say, is not a matter which is immediate today or tomorrow. You cannot today go to a settlement such as Sadot, which is such a settlement, I would say. It is also a social, economic unit.

We have another important issue. We have a problem of, I would say, unceasing pressure from what I would call the desert population. Anybody going near the fences of the Rafah salient settlements today sees what is happening there. Now if we want the relations to be as correct as possible in the future--because we are in fact beginning construction, which is not easy and not into a simple system of life together with the Egyptians, despite the fact that there is a solution to this and we will certainly discuss the solutions when we come to this issue and I am sure that we will come to it, to the fact that we will also have to give precise solutions as to how Jewish inhabitants will live under Egyptian sovereignty--we must, although it is complicated, find the simplest solutions. Thus, there is importance in the areas being, I would say, as consecutive as possible with Jewish cultivated areas, and this is exactly what we are doing.

[Question] This brings to mind, a little, the settlement in Shilo, which is in fact settlement disguised as an archeological delegation. Is this, too, intended to lay the ground?

[Answer] I do not at all compare things. Nothing in the Rafah salient is being done under cover. The cabinet took a decision to flesh out the settlements, and this decision is being implemented. The cabinet took a decision to prepare further territories, and that action is being taken.

[Question] For what purpose? I would again return to the Rafah salient. What is the purpose? I fear we have not yet received a reply to that, Mr Sharon. What is the purpose of those agricultural points? Is this groundwork for additional settlements?

[Answer] You can call them agricultural points. You can call them...

[Question] What does that mean?

[Answer] You can call them an addition of cultivated lands.

[Question] At a distance 40 km from existing settlements?

[Answer] I would not say that. Maybe the most extreme is at a distance of 40 km, but all are certainly not at a distance of 40 km.

These lands are intended to give consistency, as much as possible, to territory. I would say as closely as possible, in order to allow those same Jewish settlements which are living, existing in northern Sinai to exist. And as I said before, we need today to make things easier, as far as possible, and to prepare, as far as possible, so that no open areas remain in their hands. The areas will not remain open. We have witnessed the unceasing movement, I would say, of Bedouins. In the future there will not be only Bedouins; in the future there will be Egyptian inhabitants who will come to places where there is water, to places where it is possible to receive aid and medical help, places where there are axes of traffic to Israel and so on. From this aspect, therefore, in my opinion, what is being done today is not only not harming peace; it is helping peace.

[Question] Mr Sharon, you mentioned your military past. There is certainly nobody who would dispute it, but, from this experience and from your memories, did you also come to the conclusion that maybe it is easier for you, personally, to take rapid decisions, decisive ones, on issues of war than on issues likely to lead to peace?

[Answer] Gentlemen, I want to say to you: There are no easy decisions on matters of war either. All decisions on matters of war are very difficult decisions, and all of them were, I would say, accompanied by hesitation and by many concerns and fears and so on, and in the end you make a decision. On the matter of peace, here, too--and I would advise us all, with all our desire for peace, and I am convinced that we will come to peace--in my opinion we are taking the right road.

It is a fact that, despite everything that happens, the contacts are continuing. The Military Committee has held its deliberations. I attach great importance to the work of the Military Committee. I understand that Atherton is coming back to the Middle East in the next few days and I believe that we are on the correct road. We are on the road to peace. I am convinced that we will come to a settlement and this, in my opinion, commits us all, because of the heavy responsibility on us and because--of the whole nation of Israel. This is the concern of the whole nation of Israel. And I am certainly happy that everyone in Israel is concerned about peace. The responsibility for making decisions falls on the cabinet.

ABBA EBAN CRITICIZES ACTIONS BY CABINET

TA091240Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 9 Feb 78 TA

[Text] Knesset member Abba Eban says that, since the prime minister's meeting with the Egyptian president in Ismaila, the cabinet has committed a number of errors to which the opposition can no longer turn a deaf ear. Among those errors, Eban mentioned the establishment of a settlement at Shilo, the opposition of the cabinet to the meeting of U.S. Jewry with the Egyptian president and the foreign minister's statement regarding aid to Ethiopia. Eban was speaking with newsmen in Tel Aviv.

MODA'I COMMENTS ON OIL PRODUCTION AT ALMA FIELD

TA071850Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 7 Feb 78 TA

[From the Evening Newsreel]

[Text] Something up at Alma III: Exploration there will conclude within a week and then, with the adaptation of the installations, oil production from that field will begin. This was said by the minister of energy and infrastructure, Yizhaq Moda'i. In his evaluation, at Alma II oil production will begin within the next few weeks. Our correspondent in the south, Shemu'el Tal, reports:

[Tal] There is no basis for reports that there are holdups in Alma III drilling that are also affecting Alma II, Moda'i says. He calls these rumors "words in Alma" [play on words meaning unfounded]. The U.S. Neptune Company will bring another drilling tower to the area. The contract permits it to do this within 5 months. Moda'i thinks the tower will arrive before that. He says that there is a program to drill another four geological buildings in the At-Tur area and that, according to geological and seismic data, the area of the Gulf of Suez in its eastern part and an appreciable source of oil which would meet the needs of the state of Israel. [as heard]

To criticism heard of the quality of work of the U.S. Neptune Company, Moda'i replies it is easy to criticize after there have been findings--and oil has been found--but we must not forget that the Neptune Company took a risk when it entered the area. [begin recording]

[Moda'i] There were indeed signs and there was exploration, but they assumed many risks and, according to complaints or data they have brought to us, they have already invested $27 million in the area. That is an enormous amount, and I have no doubt that they will also observe their commitments in the other parts of the contract as well, that is, in the search for further fields in the area of their concession. I have no word of criticism about the Americans' ways of operating. If there were indeed elements who were criticial, I reject them completely. [end recording]

[Tal] According to Moda'i, the problem of producing oil against the background of the peace talks with Egypt may be less thorny than issues such as airfields or settlements, because one of the most noticeable signs of peaceful relations is commercial deals. Moda'i said that there is a drilling program for the whole of the shore area, in the area within the green line, in the Negev and in the Rafah salient. He spoke on a tour he made of Ben-Gurion University, a tour intended to check research being done here in the field of the development of solar, wind and nuclear energy.

MAPAM ADOPTS RESOLUTION ON RAFAH SALIENT

TA091041Y Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 9 Feb 78 p 3 TA

[Text] The MAPAM secretariat yesterday adopted a resolution regarding the future of the Rafah salient in which it called on the Israeli Government to return to negotiations about the possibility of including the salient under Israeli sovereignty through unilateral or mutual border modificiations.

The secretariat endorsed this week's resolutions of the acting committee of Hakibbutz Ha'arzi [MAPAM settlement movement], which postulated that settlements constitute a vital contribution to Israel's security but their location should be determined by political considerations.

At the same time, however, the MAPAM secretariat criticized "the ostentatious establishment by the Israeli Government of settlements in Judaea and Samaria, in the Sinai approaches and in the Rafah salient."

MAPAM is urging its members and sympathizers to increase the public struggle against the Likud government, "which is about to waste the historic chance of achieving peace."

MAJORITY FAVORS REFERENDUM ON WEST BANK ISSUE

TA071157Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 7 Feb 78 p 3 TA

[Excerpts] A decisive majority of 65 percent of the entire Jewish public in the country is of the opinion that a referendum should be held before the future of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip is decided. Nevertheless, about 45 percent now support the government's peace plan according to which self-rule should be given to the Arabs of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip. This is learned from a national public opinion poll conducted by the Pori Institute at the request of HA'AREZ.

The autonomy idea for the Arabs of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip is supported by 44.7 of those asked, as opposed to 38.2 percent who object to this.

NORWEGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER TALKS WITH KHALATBARI

LD081630Y Teheran PARS in English 1512 GMT 8 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Teheran, PANA (PARS NEWS AGENCY) 7 Feb--Norwegian Foreign Minister Knut Frydenlund, who is currently on a visit in Iran, met and conferred with Iranian Foreign Minister Abas Ali Khalatbari on Monday afternoon. In a statement after the meeting Mr Khalatbari said they discussed the expansion of economic cooperation between the two countries, and that Mr Frydenlund made a number of proposals with respect to oil and gas which are to be studied by experts in the Iranian Government.

The Norwegian foreign minister said his talks with the Iranian foreign minister were useful and the two parties have agreed to expand relations. He said two years ago Iran and Norway signed an agreement for economic and technical cooperation in joint ventures and the next meeting of the officials of the two countries will be held in the coming spring.

He said that a project was under study for the liquefaction of natural gas in Iran and the two countries were hoping to reach agreement in the near future. On international issues Mr Frydenlund said that they discussed the problem of the Horn of Africa and he expressed hope that the problems of that region can be solved without interference from foreign powers.

On Monday evening at a banquet given in honour of the Norwegian foreign minister, Mr Khalatbari said that the relations between Iran and Norway have been expanding in recent years and that all the avenues were open for the furtherance of mutual friendship and friendly ties between the two countries.

Mr Knut Frydenlund thanked the Iranian Government for the warm and friendly reception and said:

The complex problems of economic development, in particular--rising inflation and unemployment--have taken sinister proportions in recent years. To a certain extent they are internal problems that each individual country must try to cope with by itself. It is, however, necessary that major economic problems find their solution through closer cooperation between the nations on a world wide basis. Here our two countries have their roles to play and responsibilities to shoulder.

Oil is of international concern. As one of the world's largest producers of oil, Iran has an important and direct influence on world economy. Norway, though a newcomer and with a limited oil production, has an increasing interest in this field and in direct contact with (?Iran) as a major oil producer, as was shown by the recent visit to Iran of the members of the board of the national norwegian oil company, Statoil. Both Iran and Norway have a common interest in an oil price level that may promote general economic recovery. And we are in full agreement with Iran in its repeated statements that the world will be facing a serious crisis in the future unless the industrial countries limit their consumption of oil and find alternative energy resources.

Concludes Visit

LD081518Y Teheran Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 8 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Mr Frydenlund, Norwegian minister of foreign affairs, who came to our country at the invitation of Mr Khalatbari, our country's minister of foreign affairs, today left Teheran.

INDONESIA'S MALIK DEPARTS IRAN FOR KUWAIT

LD071244Y Teheran Domestic Service in Persian 1000 GMT 7 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Adam Malik, former foreign minister of Indonesia and a well-known international diplomat, who has been in Iran in the capacity of that country's president of parliament at the invitation of Engineer Ja'far Sharif-Imami, the Senate president, today left Teheran for Kuwait at the end of his week-long visit and talks with our country's officials.

This morning at Mehrabad Airport, Berahman Shirzad, the Voice of Iran correspondent, asked Adam Malik at a special interview to speak about the results of his visit to Iran and his audience with the shah. Malik said:

[Malik--recorded in English fading into Persian translation] As you know, the Indonesian parliamentary delegation's visit took place in response to a visit that an Iranian parliamentary delegation paid to Indonesia about 1 and 1/2 years ago.

During the visit we held very useful talks with the Iranian parliamentary officials. With Prime Minister Amuzegar we discussed the world economic situation and African issues. Adam Malik said: I had the opportunity of being granted an audience by the shah which was very beneficial for me and my delegation. We are happy that Iranian-Indonesian relations are progressing on a very cordial course. Adam Malik also said that during the audience with the shah, talks were held on the international situation, in particular Iranian-Indonesian relations. He said the shah exchanged views with us about the future of the economy of the developing and Asian countries and the formation of the Asian common market. [end recording]

PRIME MINISTER PRESENTS OUTLINE OF NEW BUDGET

LD051450Y Teheran Domestic Service in Persian 1000 GMT 5 Feb 78 LD

[Text] The prime minister today presented the country's general budget for the year beginning 21 March 1978 to the National Consultative Assembly. While presenting the budget bill in a detailed speech, Mr Amuzegar said:

It is a source of great pleasure and pride for myself and my colleagues to present the government's first budget to the legislative power the day after the day of thanksgiving, when the Iranian people gave their thanks to Almighty God on the occasion of their beloved monarch's escape from the danger threatening him.

While introducing the Council of Ministers in the second half of last August, the government's general policies and plans were summarized in one sentence. More work and efforts, combined with higher efficiency, and in conjunction with honesty and frankness, in implementing the principles of the shah-people revolution.

I am now pleased to inform you that the present budget is clear proof of the government's sincere efforts toward the realization of national aspirations brought about by the great Iranian revolution.

This budget has been formulated and presented within the framework of the government's approved policies. By following them, and while creating suitable conditions for the continuation of rational and balanced economic and social growth, indefatigable efforts to fight inflation will continue; measures will be taken to eliminate the various types of imbalances and bottlenecks as well as to reduce wastage and to avoid wasting national resources. By implementing the principle of social justice, the possibility of welfare and improvement for low-income groups will be created and maximum efforts will be made to improve the quality of life of the people; to elevate man's dignity and to enable the flowering of morality and spiritual qualities.

In combating inflation, the government's success under the shah's guidance, has been impressive. The index of goods and consumer services, which in the month of August 1977 was 31 percent higher in comparison with the same month of the previous year, was reduced to 20 percent in December 1977-January 1978. This figure is expected to fall to 17 percent during February-March 1978.

In eliminating bottlenecks and imbalances, as seen in the budget and plan for the year beginning 21 March 1978, special attention has been paid to creating and strengthening the economic infrastructure, especially communications facilities, to providing energy and expanding educational possibilities, and to mobilizing the required manpower, improving organizations and methods as well as the decentralization policy.

Among the apparent shortages and bottlenecks for whose elimination the government has prepared a comprehensive plan, and while receiving inspiration from the shah's guidance, reference should be made to housing. The essential points about this have already been made public. The bill concerning the prevention of irregular increases in land prices, within the context of the revolution's 18th principle, has already been passed by the National Consultative Assembly and is currently being debated in the Senate. This is an effective step to prevent land speculation and irrational land price increases. Furthermore, considering the legal measures concerning the completion and rental of housing units as well as the government's efforts to secure adequate appropriations in order to create organizational housing and encourage and support the building of medium-priced and cheaper houses and similar measures which will be discussed at a more appropriate time, these steps promise a fair amount of success in a rapid settlement of this problem.

Unjustified activities in land speculation, aimed only at acquirring profit, as well as waste in consumption in recent years have been among the factors contributing considerably to creating inflation and economic chaos. Consequently, the government's efforts will be aimed at increasing efficiency and obtaining returns in the application of resources as well as preventing waste, thus putting an end to this imbalance.

It is obvious that, considering the rise in wages and provision of a adequate livelihood for everybody, which have already been realized under the benevolent intentions of the shah, it will be necessary from now on to link wage rises to an increase in higher production. Meanwhile, measures must be taken to avoid waste and unnecessary costs in other sectors, for to be rich is to know the art of proper spending, and wastefulness is attributed to the upstart.

Among the other economic policies of the government is the move toward relative self-sufficiency in producing the agricultural produces used by the public. No effort will be spared in this regard. Suffice it to say at this point that the credits on government investment in the field of agriculture in next year's budget will show a 54 percent increase, and the portion related to granting agricultural credits to the people and private banks assistance, as compared with the current year, will increase by 96 percent.

The country's general budget for the year beginning 21 March 1978 has been formulated at 4.179 trillion rials; compared to the current year's budget, this shows a 17 percent increase. In order to prevent the budget from becoming (?inflationary), the government has as far as possible excluded new projects and commitments which, under the present circumstances, have a lower priority. Of the general budget, 2.936 trillion rials are earmarked for the government's general budget and the rest is allocated to the state-owned companies, government-affiliated institutions and other organizations.

As far as our foreign relations are concerned, Iran has continued to pursue its independent national policy. While establishing peaceful relations with all countries based on understanding and mutual respect, it will continue, according to the principles of the UN Charter, with its useful and effective economic and social activities in the international arena.

As for defense, the prime minister said: Iran has always pursued a peaceful and friendly policy of coexistence with other nations which involves reciprocal international cooperation. However, to safeguard the independence and national sovereignty as well as to defend the country's borders and in order to establish a secure and reliable climate to enable us to benefit from the fruits of economic and social growth in Iran, and also in order to carry out the responsibility undertaken by Iran in cooperating with other countries of the region in establishing stability in this sensitive part of the world, require adequate efforts and the allocation of part of the government's budget to strengthening the country's defense capability. As long as general disarmament has not been realized, the preparedness of the Imperial Armed Forces to confront events is inevitable.

To achieve this end, the budget for the year beginning 21 March 1978 envisages 700 billion rials, which amounts to 17 percent of the country's budget.

As for social affairs, as you were informed when the government program was being presented, the government's policy is not entirely devoted to expanding economic incomes and increasing per capita income. However, the improvement and elevation of the quality of people's life has had priority in the government's programs. In this connection, education and training, health, medical treatment and nutrition, housing, social security and environmental protection have been emphasized in the government's budget for next year. For this purpose, an appropriation of 689 billion rials has been earmarked for these activities as well as other social programs; compared with the figure for last year, the figure shows an increase of more than 26 percent.

Considering the decisive role of education and training, teachers have an essential role to play here. Therefore considerable credits have been allocated in next year's budget for the implementation of (?vocational) projects and the further welfare of the country's teachers.

The government expects the caring teachers to genuinely increase their efficiency and aim for better quality performance (?and lower quantity) and to become a more effective factor in propagating and teaching, with greater emphasis on national culture, thus promoting and strengthening the solidarity of society and prolonging the glorious Iranian history.

One of the government's chief goals in preparing the budget for the year beginning 21 March 1978 is to combat high land prices and high rent as well as the shortage of housing. In this regard the government's policy is aimed at maximum welfare for the people and meeting the needs for housing through a serious fight against increasing land prices as well as creating units, especially cheaper houses, and granting long-term loans with preferential interest rates to buyers and participating in the private sector's activities in building houses. To achieve this, a total credit of 140 billion rials has been earmarked for creating houses for workers and civil servants and cheaper houses as well as credit faciltiies for housing. In conjunction with the stabilization policy of land prices and making use of all possibilities to supply more building materials, these measures will be effective in meeting housing demands.

Efforts to improve the environment of rural and urban conditions are among other measures included in the government activities, and for each of these the necessary credit has been earmarked. In this regard, in addition to the measures taken to fight air pollution in Teheran such as the conversion of the brick kiln in the capital city to gas, the conversion of ships to gas, pollution in the Caspian Sea, research aimed at mutual cooperation with the region's countries in order to reduce pollution in the Persian Gulf, as well as the building of sewage treatment facilities in cities are all being taken into consideration. Limiting the expansion of the capital city will also be considered. Furthermore, by giving priority to urban faciltities and industrialization and the transfer of government offices--whose presence is not required in Teheran--to provincial towns, attempts will be made to restrict the migration trend from the provinces to Teheran and thus to reduce the environmental problems of Teheran.

In the economic field, the government will implement numerous and varied operations aimed at prolonging and completing the infrastructures and, along with these activities which are chiefly aimed at eliminating bottlenecks and shortages and while providing necessary faciltities for the private sector's activities, the government will avoid any type of investments where the people themselves can do so.

Considering the recent problems in providing electricity, the government has given special priority to this in next year's budget. Consequently, with a credit amounting to 312 billion rials, which shows a 46 percent increase as compared with 1977-78, the government will take effective measures to increase the production of electricity and expand power transmission networks throughout the country so that the production and consumption centers can grow closer together and the distribution and supply of electricity in the urban and rural areas are made available. As a result of the government's extensive efforts in producing and supplying electricity, it is hoped that past problems will not be repeated and no more bottlenecks will be created in meeting industrial needs for energy. The government's program is based on the objective of establishing a balance by the end of the year ending 21 March 1978 between the supply and demand for energy, and from then on of gradually creating a reserve capacity, in addition to the current needs.

In pursuing a policy aimed at diversifying energy resources and reducing dependence on oil, as well as reducing dependence on hydroelectric power, the government has taken steps to make more use of gas turbines and nuclear and solar energy; these steps will continue in the coming years. As for nuclear energy, at present the construction of two reactors with a capacity of 2,400 mw is underway in Bushehr. Furthermore, the agreement for the creation of two more reactors with a total capacity of 1,800 mw near Karun is in the final stages.

Though the impressive victories gained during the revolution period have led to jealousy on the part of those wishing Iran ill as well as of the enemies of our country. Nevertheless, the Iranian nation will continue to progress with decisiveness, without taking any notice of murmurs raised by those who oppose us.

PRIME MINISTER PREDICTS OIL PRICE FREEZE THIS YEAR

LD091126Y Teheran Domestic Service in Persian 1000 GMT 9 Feb 78 LD

[Excerpts] In an interview with an AP representative in Teheran today, Prime Minister Amuzegar described Iran's views on the oil question and the Horn of Africa.

Regarding oil, the prime minister predicted that the international price of oil will not go up until the end of 1978, but that a gradual annual oil price increase should be expected starting next year. In the interview with the AP representative, the prime minister said: The oil price will probably double by the end of the 1980's. A sudden increase in prices will not be in anyone's interests; it should be done gradually. The consumers and producers should get together somehow, discuss this issue and look for alternative sources of energy. At the same time prices should go up gradually.

The prime minister said two main factors are preventing an increase in oil prices this year: There is still an oil glut in markets; supply exceeds demand. Western European economic improvement has yet to achieve a favorable position, and there is a long way to go before a desired situation is achieved.

The prime minister said: Iran's oil reserves, currently estimated at 67 billion barrels, are diminishing at the rate of 2 billion barrels a year. At this rate the reserves will be exhausted in 32 years. Iran is currently consuming half a million barrels a day, and its local consumption is increasing at the rate of 18 percent a year. He added: Within 10 years, Iran's oil exports will be going down because an increasing proportion of oil products will be consumed at home.

The prime minister referred to the conflict in progress between Ethiopia and Somalia in the Horn of Africa and reiterated the shah's statement to the effect that Ethiopian-Somali differences should be resolved through peaceful means. In answer to a question on what assistance Iran has given to Soamlia, the prime minister said so far Iran has given only medical assistance to Somalia.

Concluding his interview with the AP, Prime Minister Jamshid Amuzegar said regarding the Middle East crisis: Iran supports President Anwar as-Sadat's peace initiative and that it has no intention of mixing politics with the sale of oil. Mr Amuzegar explained: Once an oil tanker has left our ports in the Persian Gulf we no longer have any control over its destination. We sell oil to anyone who wants to buy it. We do not mix oil with politics.

BANGLADESH

YUGOSLAV OFFICIAL HOLDS TALKS WITH MINISTERS

LD0814440Y Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0943 GMT 8 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Stojan Andov, member of the Federal Executive Council and chairman of the Yugoslav side of the mixed committee, is in Dacca for the third session of the Yugoslav-Bangladesh Mixed Committee for Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation. He has had talks with Dr Huda, minister of planning and chairman of the Bangladesh side of the mixed committee. This morning he had separate talks with Minister of Foreign Affairs Prof Shamsul Haq, and Minister of Commerce Mohammed Saifur Rahman relations between Yugoslavia and Bangladesh in the nonalined movement and on joint actions of nonalined and developing countries to establish a new world economic order (?and to promote) mutual trade.

Both sides pointed out the need to reinforce the unity of nonalined and developing countries in the implementation of the decisions taken at the fifth nonalined summit in Colombo. During these meetings, close cooperation between Yugoslavia and Bangladesh in the international sphere was noted. However, both sides said there are many more possibilities to promote economic [word indistinct] between the two countries and their joint ventures on third markets.

INDIA

PRC TRADE DELEGATION ARRIVES IN DELHI 8 FEB

BK0909027Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 9 Feb 78 BK

[Text] A 16-member Chinese trade delegation arrived in New Delhi last night on a 2-week visit. It is led by Mr Liu Ching, managing director of the China National Machinery Import and Export Corporation. The delegation was received at the airport among others by the director of the State Trading Corporation, Mr V.S. Thakur, representatives of the Hindustan Machine Tools, the Steel Authority of India, the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation, that are the hosting organizations, [who] gave them a warm welcome. The delegation is to have talks today with representatives of the hosting organizations on the available trade between the two countries.

India sold shellac and pig iron to China last year. They have now shown a keen interest in basic minerals and light machinery. The AIR [All-India Radio] correspondent says that this is the first visit by a trade delegation from China after a lapse of many years.

The delegation will visit major industrial centers and hold talks with associations of trade and industry to identify common areas of trade.

Preliminary Talks Held

BK0909029Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 9 Feb 78 BK

[Text] The preliminary talks between the Chinese trade delegation and representatives of the four public sector undertakings hosting the visit began in New Delhi today. The delegation led by Liu Ching, managing director of the China National Machinery Import and Export Corporation, will later in the day meet the commerce secretary.

During its 15-day stay, the delegation will split into small groups and travel around the country visiting major industrial centers. Detailed discussions will be held individually with the host organizations, which include the State Trading Corporation, Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation, the Steel Authority of India and the Hindustan Machine Tools to negotiate contracts for the purchase of basic minerals and light machinery.

MONGOLIAN MINISTER SIGNS TRADE PACT, MEETS DESAI

BK081607Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 8 Feb 78 BK

[Text] India and Mongolia signed a new trade agreement in New Delhi today. The agreement will be valid for 5 years. Under it the two countries will accord each other the most favored nation treatment in all matters relating to trade.

The Mongolian foreign minister, Mr Mangalyn Dugersuren, who signed the treaty on behalf of his country, also called on the prime minister.

Final Round of Talks Held

BK090926Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 9 Feb 78 BK

[Text] Close similarity of views have been reflected in the discussions between the Mongolian foreign minister, Mr Mangalyn Dugersuren, and the external affairs minister, Mr Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

During the concluding round of talks today, the two leaders intensively reviewed the international situation and further development of relations between the two countries.

ECONOMIC DELEGATION BEGINS VISIT TO LAOS 7 FEB

For reportage on the visit to Laos of an economic delegation led by Minister of State for External Affairs Somarendra Kundu, see the Laos section of the 8 February and subsequent issues of the Asia & Pacific DAILY REPORT.

DEFENSE DELEGATION TO SHOP FOR STRIKE AIRCRAFT

BK081705Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1700 GMT 8 Feb 78 BK

[Text] New Delhi, Feb. 8 (AFP)--An Indian delegation will tour certain foreign countries which have offered to sell or manufacture a deep-penetration strike aircraft in this country.

This was disclosed today by Defence Minister Jagjivan Ram in Madras.

Britain and France are among the countries which made the offer, though Mr. Ram did not name any of them. The British aircraft involved is the "Jaguar" and the subject had figured at Prime Minister James Callaghan's talks here during his visit last month. He had said that India had agreed to consider the offer.

Mr. Ram said, addressing the members of the Madras Press Club, that the team would appraise the capacity and capability and cost of these aircraft before a final decision was taken by the government.

PAKISTAN

CONTEMPT OF COURT PETITIONS FILED AGAINST WALI KHAN

BK0913527 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 9 Feb 78 BK

[Text] A division bench of the Supreme Court comprising the chief justice, Mr Justice S. Anwarul Haq, and Mr Justice Dohrab Patel, today admitted two separate petitions against a leader of the NDP [National Democratic Party], Mr Abdul Wali Khan, for contempt of the Supreme Court. The petition has been filed by two advocates, one of Rawalpindi and the other of Karachi.

After hearing the Rawalpindi advocate, Mr (Bahab Ali Khairi), the court issued a show cause notice to the respondent and fixed the 25th of this month for the hearing of the case. A copy of the notice was also issued to the attorney general to assist the court in the case.

The secretary of the Rawalpindi Bar Association was directed to bring the minute book of the association concerning the meeting addressed by Mr Abdul Wali Khan on the 5th of this month to assist the court. Show cause notices were also issued to the editors, printers and publishers of the dailies Tamir and Hayat of Rawalpindi to appear as respondents.

(?Speaking) of the second petition filed by Mr Mohammad Shafi Mohammadi, an advocate of Karachi, the court issued show cause notices to the editors, printers and publishers of the dailies SADAQAT and HURRIYAT of Karachi and the weekly (MAYAR) of Karachi for the same date. The president of the District Bar Association of Karachi was directed to apprise the minutes and supply an authentic copy of the minutes of the meeting addressed by Mr Abdul Wali Khan on the 5th of last month.

SRI LANKA

JAYEWARDENE TO ATTEND SYDNEY COMMONWEALTH MEETING

BK0812087 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 8 Feb 78 BK

[Text] The first regional meeting of the Asian and Pacific Commonwealth leaders is due to be held in Sydney from the 13th to the 16th of this month. The Sri Lanka delegation at this meeting will be led by President Mr J.R. Jayewardene. He is due to leave for Australia next Saturday.

This will be Mr Jayewardene's first visit abroad since the new government came into power. The foreign minister, Mr A.S.C.S. Hameed, will also be in the Sri Lanka delegation.

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